

Camp Carolina

Norfolk Virginia

June 30th The 15th 61

Dear Uncle,

As it has been some
time since I write to you, I will make
an effort this morning to give you ~~some~~
of a short history of our camp.
There is but little sickness present
within the camp of the Frays. My health is
still good. We are drilling very hard and
the most of us can handle our guns tolerably
well, our camp is as pleasant a one as can be
found in this part of the state. I am perfectly
satisfied with a soldier's life, although it is a hard
one. I visited Craney Island on last Sunday
and with a Spectacle glass could see the Enemy
very plain there was five vessels in the
mouth of the James River. They were in motion
but I did not understand their motions,
they were very well mounted with heavy cannon.
The vessels at B and tents at Bethell were
all most innumerable. Craney Island has an
embankment nearly all round it, and has
35 Mtd Cannon, with several pounds of shell
and ball. Swells, Spinners Point the Marine
Hospital and Fort Norfolk are all in —

very good order for meeting the Northern vessels,
and I think they will have a warm time in
passing those points.

I heard yesterday that some of the Yankees
had landed at Padian View whether it
be true or not I am not able to say. I also
heard that their Picket guards are almost frigh-
tened to death. They are continually dodging and
hiding, from old stumps, a few days ago a
limb fell close by a dozen of them, when they
sprang to their feet immediately and made for
their quarters as hard as they could crack it, if this
is the clap of men that we have to fight, the
time is not far distant, when we will all be
dismissed and allowed to return home in triumph.

I received a letter from ^{Home} last Tuesday, which gave
me much satisfaction. Fathers Family all
all well. There was not a Union vote given in
my County. they are also making great pre-
parations for war.

I should like very much to see you all again
if I could do so in peace. but under the present
circumstances I could not enjoy myself much out
side of the army,

Give my best wishes to Aunt Sallie and my
thanks to her for the pair of socks she sent me
Give my love and best wishes to all of my

Relations in Granville and tell them
that I hope the time is not far distant when
I shall have the pleasure of paying them all
a visit again.

Mr. Thomas Parkam, is well. He sends his
Regards to you all. He is quite a fine fellow.

Nothing more this morning
But remain your affectionate nephew
J. S. P. Ghee

