

York Town July 31<sup>st</sup>

Dear Sister:

This is the second letter I have written home since I started, as Henry wrote at every station nearby; (only once on the journey). I am on guard to day[sic] and will have to go to the guard[?] in an hour from now, so can not[sic] finish to day[sic]. I like to stand picket guard very well but as to police guard; deliver me! I dislike to stand guard at night on account of its being so cold. It is as cold as winter. The sea-breeze comes in all the time and is very pleasant in the day time. The bay is only four miles from here. I saw [Cronest?] Abe's blockading vessel about eight miles of yesterday, could see her very plainly[sic]. I do not know why she came so closely probably to [reconitre?]. I saw fifteen of his war vessels carrying troops from Fortress [M?] to Washington after the Battle of Manassas, so it cuts us out of all hopes of a fight here. Some of his fleet came in four miles of one of our batteries not very long ago and after the finest shot was fired, they (the fleet) run like turkies[sic]. The shot fell a half a mile short of the mark too. The way it did whizz is indescribable! I could hear it until it struck the water.

I do not like camp life at all, Henry is very homesick, and if he should get very bodily sick, I want you all to send after him for heaven's sake. I would not have him lie here for anything. They are not half attended to who are sick. Bro. M. can get him any time[sic] he wants him as he is not eighteen years old yet. He is not sick. Two members of our company died yesterday and one died week before last. Typhoid dysentery is raging in this regiment. None of the companies have it as badly as ours. Out of eighty privates, only thirty eight or forty report for duty, consequently my time for duty comes around once or twice a week, where as it should not come but once a month. Sitting up all night once or twice in a week is not very agreeable. Bob Rutherford Slappey is dangerously ill now in a tent next to mine. Some of us expect him to die very soon, I hope it may not be so.

Our fare is good so far as it goes but it does not go far enough. We have flour, coffee, sugar, pickled meat. I am not a very good cook. I would like very much to have any-thing from home. Lard, (some), butter, syrup, one or two raw hams, (peaches and apples in abundance) also those overcoats we wrote for would be very very thankfully received in a box by express directed, care of Capt. Barclay T.G. – 6<sup>th</sup> Reg. Geo. Vol. York-Town Va. Another one of one of[sic] the New Orleans [zonaves?] was killed by [sentinel?] last night for crossing his lines and not halting when he told him to do it. They dug a hold and threw him in it like a dog. He was shot through the head.

Tell Bro. M. to send those repeaters if he has got them, I never can stop, if I wish to, for want of news. It is abundant. We can have any kind here we want I hope this war will soon end I am tired of this inactivity. Had it been for our victory at Manassas we would have had a desperate fight, here.

The battery or breast works that Lafayette took are in a perfect state about an[sic] hundred yards from here across a deep ravine. We are appropriating it to our own use now.

I stood from 12 till 2 o'clock last night, my post joined a [zonave's?] who was at the siege of Sabastapole in the war of 18[59?] with Austria, also in Algiers. He was wounded at Sabastopol.

He told me some of the most ludicrous stories about the tricks the boys played on him when he first came to this country. I disliked to leave when the guard came around to relieve me. He likes the people of Georgia better than any others in the South. He said. They treated him very kindly.

It is reported that this regiment and one of the N. Ca. regiments are going to Newport News to morrow and enforce the[demand of mag?] of the Yankees to evacuate it . An officer said we are to go rather cheering indeed. I hope you will write to one of us every week. Whether you get an answer or not. We write twice a week. I on Wednesday, Henry on Sunday.

Be certain to send those things as you know better what to send than I do. Pickles, preserves &c. [sic] are a variety. We do not pay but a dollar a gallon for molasses.

I have not been sick but once since I came and that only lasted only a half a night. I must close as I have to cook two days rations preparatory to going to Newport News to morrow[sic].

Good Bye my loved sister,

Your Bro,

Kit C. A.

Give love to all and Sis Mary love and congratulations