

Camp Georgia, York Town.

My Dear Sister:-

Henry has just received a letter from you. It came yesterday evening, but Henry was on grand guard down town and consequently did not read or get it, rather, until he was relieved. I wanted to break it open, but did not like to do it on account of its being directed to another I was very patient however, considering the letter was from home. We have not had our expected fight yet, though some of us still expect it. I am afraid I will have to quit on account of the want of any news. It is very scarce in this section of the country. Some of the boys are cooking in front of the tent and the smoke is giving me particular [Jesse?]. We are doing something all the time nearly either cooking or drilling, but we are excused from drill, from us to wash our clothes. Henry thinks we are obliged to wash them and don't like it at all, We have not told him any better yet. I hire a negro to wash mine, so does he, but thinks we must wash any how. We pay six cents a garment I keep that soap I brought from home for hand soap.

I have a plenty of fish now as well as oysters, Henry saw a turtle this morning weighing an hundred pounds. He was a very large one he says. I have become a very good cook now, made some splendid beef-hash for breakfast this morning, mess praised it a good deal. I tried to make some light bread yesterday but completely failed, though I did not try very hard.

I will go on with my letter again, as I had to quit yesterday and go down to the beach to work on the battery. I did not strike a lick, though I went for the purpose of working. I got a newspaper, sat down and went to reading. The officer did not say anything to me, so I would not go it. I have got a sore foot now therefore I do not have to drill. I would not have gone to work, if we had not have had to stand still and work. Our duties are very severe. Some of the men are sick, some pretend to be so and it throws the whole burden on the shoulders of those that are well and honest. Out of eighty men only about thirty stand guard. I have to stand guard every third day, and have three nights to sleep and one to stay awake. You know it is hard. I get very sleepy on my post sometimes. One of the zouaves went to sleep on his post one night and his punishment is;- to wear a ball and chain on his ankle the remainder of the term of his enlistment and

remain in confinement all that time. His time expires in six months from now, poor fellow. I am sorry for him. The reason he went to sleep was: - he had to stand guard ten nights in succession, owing to the neglect of his officers. I do not blame him for going to sleep. They are treated like dogs anyhow. He bears his sentence very cheerfully. Henry came off of guard yesterday and will go on again tomorrow.

There is a great mortality in camp. Our company lost two men day before yesterday. The names were Rogers and Chapman. The physicians are not competent is the general opinion. We have lost eight men since I have arrived in camp. The Georgians fare worse than any of the regiments. More of the men die, is what I mean. The reveille do not beat until an hour by sun now an account of the heavy dews that fall at night. We do not have to get up until reveille beats. It looks like it has been raining nearly when you get up next morning.

When I wrote you last I told you to have me a pair of boots made. I want the soles tripled and to extend a half an inch or a quarter of an inch beyond where the top-leather is sewed to the sole of the boot. If Brother M. will speak to a shoe or a boot maker, he can tell him the name of such a sole. They last twice or three times as long as the ordinary soles, several of the boys have them. If you could get Alligator leather, that would be so much better. Fred has a pair of Alligator shoes and a pair of boots of the same material. If you can not get those Indian rubber pantaloons, you can have a pair of leggins of some kind made. A great many of the men have them made of linen for summer; but I want something impervious to water. I told Sis Susan to try to get me an India-suit in Albany if you can not succeed in the upper part of the state. We are going to have hard times this winter I expect I am going to freeze nearly; Some of the keenest most piercing blasts of wind come in winter, so these Virginians say, that you ever heard of or saw, or felt. When I wrote for three blankets I do not know whether it will be enough or not.

It would be well for you to stuff those mattresses with cotton before you send them. You can very easily pack them up with the blankets and clothes. I do not know but that a good thick woolen coat would not be objectionable. I want it to wear when I have to cook and do any kind of work nearly. I can not wear the overcoat when I am cooking you know. I would then be without a coat however I can make out on my broadcloth coat, if you cannot conveniently get them for us. I will write to Sis Susan to have us some

made if you approve of it. I forgot to say that these mattresses will only be two or three feet by six, and my boots No. 8's.

I am plum out of news I saw down at the wharf yesterday evening a field telegraph layer. It was told to me by one of the men that the reason it came, is:- we are going to have a fight in a few days. I see it also hinted in the Richmond Dispatch that a fight will soon take place not many miles away from Norfolk. I presume they mean York Town. The boat brought down a whole load of ammunition, bombs, balls, prodes, canon and every thing you can think of. We are building more batteries.

I must close. Henry sends love to all and one particular all, I expect, a neighbor. Good Bye. Love to all.

Yours Aff.

Kit C. Anderson

Christopher Cowan Anderson

York Town

Va.-