

Yorktown Sunday July 21st 1861

My Dear Parents

I expect you think I write very often, but the fact is I delight to write home, but I would delight still more to receive letters from home. I wrote to you about three days ago, and sent the letter to Macon to be mailed by a member of our company who went home to Twiggs. Up to this time I have not received any letters. This makes the fourth letter I have written home, but I am afraid you have not received them. As yet, we have not been attacked, and I afraid we will not be. It is now Sabbath, but the soldiers don't pay much to the sacredness of the day, but I don't like very much to do wrong on Sabbath days.

And I expect to do as little as possible. I expect now while I am writing you all are either in the meeting house or on your way there. But we are in defense of our country. Those New Orleans Zouaves of whom you have so much talk are here. I see them every day, and they are a fine looking set of men. We have very good "eating fare." We are supplied with sugar and coffee, very good meat, meal and flour. We have a good deal of our sugar to buy for they hardly even give us enough. Some of them have butter but I have not had any yet. Kitt is now sitting here writing to some one I don't know who. We are encamped on a hill in a pine head. We can walk out fifty yards and see up the bay for a good many miles, and we can most any time see a Yankee steamer lying down the bay. I wish we could get a chance to blow a hole through her with some of our large cannon commanding the bay. The last time I wrote I was sick a little but I am entirely well. I have not had my uniform made yet nor Kitt either. He is pretty homesick, but otherwise gets along finely. I expect we will be called up to march down towards Bethel in a few days for I believe this regiment marches down that way "every now and then." I wish we would be march down for a change. The "Baker Fire eaters" are encamped right beside us, and I see Dr. Harrison every day, and also Edgar Allen Judson's ear is almost well now. I think he stands the camp life remarkably well. I never hear him complain. Fred is now sitting out here talking with some more men. Mr. Happy and McRand and Gloven are still here and purpose to start home tomorrow. Mr. Happy has an old bomb shell that he is going to carry home with him. I wish you could see our cannon and breastworks. We have our position assigned to us in case we should be attacked. The Zouaves have charge of most of the cannon, and they practice with them every day. I saw our captain Burkle arrest two of the Baker Fire eaters this morning for fighting. I saw the fight. One of them had an ax and the other had a stick and I expect one of them would have killed the other if they had not been stopped. I saw the man the other day who had just shot off one of his fingers accidentally and I tell you it was an awful looking spectacle. I saw the doctor cut it off and drop it. The same day one of our men shot a hole through his arm. The measels are in our regiment, but Kitt has not had them yet.

I think the the "Baker Fire eaters" is the best looking company in our regiment. Capt. Anderson's company from Ft. Valley are in our regiment. Col. Colquitt is very well. He has Tucker up here with him but Tuck has does not like the camp life.

Well. As I have not room on the other sheet I will try to fill up another!

We received news yesterday that Gen. Beauregard had whipped the Yankees at Manassas. I hope it is so.

Our 1st Sergeant left here yesterday for Richmond, because he was sick, he expects to stay there until he gets well, but if I get very sick I will want to go home. If I knew I would not be sick I would not mind the camp life.

Our company have a good many ducks and chickens around our camps. I looked around just now, and saw a good drove of ducks walking about. There are a very few citizens around here now. They have almost all gone off. I have not been in the river bathing but twice for the water is salty and I don't like it much. We very frequently pick up old remains of the revolution such as balls, shells, and some have found bones. The cave in which Cornwallis made his headquarters is here, and I have been into it. The spot where Cornwallis gave up his swards to Washington is now marked by a monument. Capt. Barklay has a barrel of wiskey which he gives out to his men, but I have not drunk a drop and I don't expect to do it. Only for medical purpose and when it is necessary for me to do it. I don't think the temptations to do wrong are any stronger here than about home. We have very few bad men in our company. There are none very bad. We have a great deal of leisure time and I pass off a good deal of it in reading my Bible. We have to drill every morning and evening and it is very seldom we ever have to work any. I had to stop writing just now to go and attend inspection of arms. The colonel himself came around and inspected our arms.

I will now put the letter down and write more this evening.

I have just come back from the spring. Kitt and I went after some water to cook with, but we don't do much cooking. We bring most of the water for our mess, and some of them do most of the cooking. Some of the boys brought negroes with them to do their cooking and washing. There are four men that sleep in the tent with Kitt and myself. We have a large and very good tent. We eat in a mess with 8 or 9. Capt. Barklay is very clean man, he is not strict. We are not encamped exactly in Yorktown, but out 300 yards from town. Yorktown is a small place, not hardly as large as Cedars Town. I hope if Lincoln persecutes the war, that he will make a big campaign of it and not keep us here always doing nothing. When you all write, you must tell me the most important news how our affairs work in England &c. We don't hear a great deal of news. We get Richmond dispatches most every day.

I have not heard of any prisoners being brought into Yorktown for the last several days. I would like to see Hampton and Bethel and those places down there, but I would like still more to have possession of them.

I have been on police guard once, but never on picket-guard, because we have less time to stand.

Jud received those clothes you sent up by us for he was in need of them.

He did not have his hair cut off and he looks pretty strange.

Almost every mess has a treasury and we all deposit certain amounts into it with which to buy what things to eat as we need.

I am glad Kitt and I brought up two blankets a piece for I expect we will need them in winter if the war lasts that long. Some of the officers have bet \$5 to others that the war would not last 3 months. I hope they will win.

Well, I will try another page.

If Grandpa comes up in August I wish you would like for you to send me up a few things if you can by him. I would like to have an India-rubber raincoat for I think I will need it in winter. I wish I and Kitt had brought up a trunk for we could have done it easy. A good many of the privates have them. I wish you would send me up some twine strings and other string, a good many of them and long ones too, that would do for strapping on my outer clothes to my carpet. For it wasn't enough. I would like for you to send me

also my overcoat instead of that broadcloth coat. I will need agathes good soft hat, that I could cram in my carpet bag. I would also for you to send me "something good to eat." Give my love to Aunt Mary Card's family and also to Mr. Richardsons Sparks and Peak's families. Give my love to Mr. and Mrs. Landers, and tell them to remember us in their prayers. I do hope we will get back safe from this war, and come off victorious. And I hope you will all pray for that. We lost our Zouave [chaps] for which I am very sorry. Give our love to the children and negroes. I know nothing more to write.
Your obedient son
Henry Bunn

Expense but I want you all to write very often. I am very to get a letter from home. I would write a letter every two or three days to you no more but for the expense.
Henry Bunn.

