

Richmond July 10th 1861

Dear Ma or Pa.

I am at Richmond, arrived here yesterday about Twelve o'clock.

We had pretty hard times coming up. Had to sleep out on our blankets two nights.

We were delayed at Dalton about 7 or 8 hours. We were also delayed at Lynchburg a day and night. I did not expect to find any one here that I knew, but I found about a dozen.

Mr. Rockmore is here, and belongs to the Houston Volunteers capt Wimberly. Capt. Poole was promoted to the office of Major and George Wimberly of Jeffersonville was elected captain in his place.

I saw also Frank & Joel Walker
and a great many more of the
Houston boys. Mr. Rackmore was
very glad to see me, & hugged me
when we met. He says I must
tell you that I saw him and
that he could not be satisfied
without coming up to fight.
He wanted us to stay with him
very much. One of the Houston Co.
was sun-stroked yesterday, but is
getting better. One of our men
fainted (Mr. Loggins). It was
very hot marching up to the
camps but I endured it very well.
I think I can endure a camp-
life very well. I slept with
Mr. Vestry last night & the night
before. He has been mighty
kind to us. I have not been
sick at all since I left.
There was a good deal of
drinking among the boys while

we were coming up, but I have
not tasted any, and I don't expect
even to do it - only for medicinal
purposes. Mr. Rackmore and the boys
are very anxious for us to join
their company and we promised
to do so if we could not join the
Twigg Guards, but we will join
that company. Kitt & Mr. Vestry
are going down in town to get
passports for York's own directly.
We did not have to pay any thing
for coming up here at all.
I am now in the camp writing with
four or five others. There was a
pretty hard rain yesterday after
we had raised our camp.
There are hordes of soldiers in &
around Richmond I don't know
how many. You can stand and
see a thousand men on parade
at once. I saw a whole battalion
drill together yesterday evening.

at good many of the troops are now
in the guard house for crimes.
One man tried to kill his captain
the other day and I heard that they
were talking about shooting him.
I have seen him. He is a powerful
looking fellow.

Richmond is a much larger
place than I expected to find it.
I had to march about 3 miles
out to camp. Think we will
start to York tomorrow
morning. I will see them now.
The Houston Vol are encamped about
200 yards from us now. I must
charge me to do this morning.

B. W. and Steven B. Gordon passed through
here yesterday after Calvin Brown
who is very sick about Phillip
I believe. I will not go around and
see the Rock man and then come
and write more.

Well About Three hours later.

Well I have been down in Town since I commenced this letter, and obtained a permit to our company, but we will have to pay our fair to York Town from Richmond. Kit & myself & Mr. Vetry went down and walked over a part of Richmond. I tell you it is a fine & large city. I saw the capitol and the statue of Washington on his horse on a monument about 50 feet high from the ground. I have been around ^{to} the Rockmores tent and saw him. She says I must not forget to tell you that I saw him up here.

We expect to start for York Town tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock.

Some of the men are very unruly.

They have to put them under guard very often. I tell you there are not many wicked men up here now.

But although I am in camp I expect
and desire to live as a Christian.
That is my greatest desire.

Some of the companies are very well
drilled.

I may have to stay at a hotel in Toronto
to night - in order to get off on the
train in the morning. I don't want
to though if I could do otherwise.
I am afraid I will get scarce in
money.

I have now about \$4 or \$4.10.
Every thing is very dear.

I must close.

Remember me in your prayers as
I know you ^{both} do.

Give my love to all the family and also
to Mr Richardson's, Peck's & Sparks
also to Aunt Mary's family.

I remain as ever your obedient son.
Henry Burns.

Post-Script

I will write again as soon as
I arrive at York Town. Henry Burns