

Yorktown Nov 6th 1861

Dear Ma

It has been over a week since I have written home. I commenced a letter to you several days ago, but did not finish it because I did not have time and since then I have had no good opportunity to write. We received a letter from you day before yesterday directed to Kitt. I had just eat supper when it was handed to me, and as soon as roll was called, I went in my tent and went in my tent and went to bed and read it by the light of a candle, and I was mighty glad to hear from home for it had been nearly 3 weeks to I think since I had received a letter from anyone of you. Kitt was not present when I got the letter, so I opened and read it we open each other's letters when we know that they are from home. Kitt is one of the Provost guard, whose business it is to patrol about town, and put those whom they catch without papers in the guard house. He does not have to stand in the night but only in the day. Kitt likes his post finely and would not give it up for a pretty. Yesterday I was detailed to go down in town for guard duty with two from our Co. and 25 more from the Regiment and when I got there I found that we were detailed permanently to guard the wharf and I am glad of it for the guard duty won't be so heavy as when we stayed in the company and when we are off guard we won't have anything to do, but can go all over town and any where we please. So Kitt and I are down in town on different sorts of guard duty. We are not subject to drill and work, but are free when we are not on guard.

They are going to build us a house to sleep in pretty soon. Cousin Isie is here at Yorktown and will go home as soon as anyone leaves here for Georgia who can take care of her. Her baby has been sick but is well. Believe Fred has gotten over the Rheumatism. We expect to have an election for 3rd Lieut shortly and there are four or five candidates. I can't tell yet who will be elected. We have one man in our co. who is very sick with Pneumonia, He got drunk and exposed himself too much and the doctor thinks that caused it. We expected sometime ago to be attacked here, but the excitement is over. I don't believe there will be much more hard fighting, but I had rather fight it out than stay here doing nothing. Men are detailed every day to cut poles to build houses for our regiment, and I expect we will houses in 2 or 3 weeks but I am afraid we will be crowded in them. I have not had my uniform made yet. I have not needed it yet. For we don't have to wear uniform, and need not do it unless we want to, but I intend to have it made soon. I have received the vests and mattress, shoes and socks, but have never received any leggins yet. Did Pa order any for us from Twiggs or Macon. I wish you had sent pillows to us with the mattress I wish I had the leggins for they would be of great service in preventing my feet and legs from getting wet standing guard in the rain, whenever we have it to do. How is Pa's corn crop? Did he make enough meat? How is Frank's leg? Is Thos . Asbury still at home or has he returned to Virginia? I wrote to him not long ago and directed to Manassas Va. Has Mr. Bell and Taylor returned to Cave Spring yet?