

Alexandria Va:

Monday morning, May 8th, 1865

Dear Parents,

Here goes a line to let you know where & how I am; You probably have learned that the Army were moving toward this place, (or Washington) & will be anxious to hear as Soon as possible from me;

After writing you my last, we moved the next day. (1st of May) Tyler came to us that day:

We moved toward Petersburg & passed through it on the 3rd & then towards Richmond. Arrived at Manchester on the 4th (a town across the river from Richmond & directly opposite.) we remained there till the morning of the 6th, when we start for this place; (over land) But before starting: Some who were sick & unable to march were sent to the Hospital; to take the Boat. & Burch went with this Squad; & I having blistered my feet from previous marching: got a pass for the Ambulance; (all right otherwise) The troops (5th & 2nd Corps): passed through Richmond; & were Reviewed by Gen[eral] Mead [sic] & Halleck; We passed through the principal part of the City. Also passed "Libby Prison" & "Old C Thunder" & the Capital [sic]; & the part that was destroyed by the fleeing Rebels: It was all a sight worth seeing: after the Troops passed through the City, they went on toward this place I suppose. Well; how did I get here So Soon! Ah; yes. I will tell you. Not by the Ambulances of course. They would not take any with them, on the start. So I with a lot of others had to go on afoot with our sore feet &c [etc.]. or do otherwise & we did, do otherwise: made way arround [sic] to Richmond to the Capital [sic] & the lay down on the Square, in the Shade, till the troops were all passed. & took a good nap. then reported to the Provost Marshall. He gave us a pass for this place & next morning we took the Boat at 2 O. C. a.m. & arrived here at 2 this morning: making the trip in 24 hours: without breaking the old blisters. We changed Boats at City Point, but was not delayed any; So making a flank movement; & Saving a march of about 180 miles; which will take the Corps. Some 6 or 8 days yet to make; after landing here we came to the Soldiers Rest, where we are now: have had Breakfast & now writing this. I understand that we are to go in Camp out of town. & remain till the Corps comes up; Crosson is with me. & Burch is Somewhere else. & Tyler with the Reg; The weather is fare & everything looks gay - & the prospects better than formerly: I reckon. I understand that the Troops are able to come here to the have a grand Review of the whole Army (Sherman's with the rest) & then; well I don't know what it will be But hope –

I have nothing more to write now & will close. I am anxious to hear from you, but don't except to get any mail till the Reg. comes up.

I am now well & feel some better; I am satisfied with my trip even if it was paid with blistered feet. I think they would have been worse if I had the trip to march.

Respects to all:

From your Son

AH Tibbals.