Dear Harry.

Yours of May 8<sup>th</sup> came safely to hand on the 26<sup>th</sup> May & I have had no time to answer it before as I have been on piquet, moving camp regimental inspection, company inspection &c & &c. ever since receiving it.

Edward has gone to N.O. sick. I never saw any man more tired of the service than he is at present (except myself) on account of the uncertainty of our movements & the way in which things have been & are conducted. We received 5 days ago orders to hold ourselves in readiness to move at 15 minutes notice, it being rumoured that the rebs. had crossed the Atchafalaya. Our Cavalry went out 35 miles & found nothing & yet the orders have not been countermanded yet. Emory commands the Corps & has done so since about the 15<sup>th</sup> May. Gaul is out of the service, having got sick of it. He resigned on surgeon's certificate. I can assure you that there is not one officer in the regiment sorry to have him go. If he had not resigned, we had fully made up our minds to prepare charges at the first opportunity offering & have him (if possible) dismissed. We did get up a memorial requesting him to resign, but as he was taken sick & resigned, it was not presented to him, so he does not know that such a thing was got up. Waltermire commands at present & I think will get the Lieut. Col'cy. I am inclined to think he is a little tricky. Hart I think will get the Majority. Old Pettit would like to have it but I do not think she will succeed.

No resignations are accepted, except on medical certificate of the strongest kind, so there is no hopes of my getting out of the service yet awhile. I would give six months pay to get home.

The Genl. is expected every day. He has been relieved at Baton Rouge & is now in New Orleans. I have not seen Bischoff since you left for home but will see him as soon as he gets back here. He is with the Genl. Cornwell sends his kind regards. Molineux does not think much of either him or Comstock having found some thing or other in them not exactly on the square. He ought to know, having had them on his staff since the Genl. left as the Genl. could not take them with him. Molineux took Hussey on the staff a couple of days ago wishing to have somebody from our regiment to associate with. I think a good deal more of Hussey than I did a year ago. He is as good hearted a boy as you will find in a days journey & has done me a number of good turns.

We are very short of officers at present. Smith & Rifenburgh are both sick so we have but 5 line officers for duty. I have been troubled with diarrhea for nearly a month. Not enough to make me sick but it keeps me feeling bad all the time.

I will write again soon & keep you posted. I will send a copy of that order in relation to [illegible] as soon as it can be obtained, all the copies having been left in N.O. when the campaign commenced. He was afterwards discharged by order of the President, so Col. Curry who commands his regiment told me.

Hoping soon to hear from you again & with love to all
I remain with love
Your Affectionate Brother
Frank.

I have written to Pa by this mail. Tell Drake I will write to him in my next.