

Camp 159<sup>th</sup> Regt. N.Y. S. Vols.  
Thibodaux, La. Oct.5, 1863

Dear Father,

I had the pleasure yesterday of reading two of your letters to Harry [Tiemann], one of the 19<sup>th</sup>, the other the 26<sup>th</sup> Sept. I am very sorry that you should think I did not write as often as I could, for I do write now and have done so since I got well, just as often as I can get the time I have had all my time taken up lately with my company books & accounts, which were all destroyed while we were at Port Hudson. There are the a/cs [accounts] of a whole year to straighten and having to guess at most of it, you can imagine what a difficult job it is. I hardly have time to turn around so busy am I. By the last of this month I will be through & then I will write regularly.

Knowing that it will please you more, I have made up my mind not to resign till I am mustered out with the regiment. Do not think me changeable, for it has cost me something to give up the idea, especially as I hear you are sick. I am heartily homesick, which I have brought on by my ill success in getting mustered as an Officer. I have worked at it until I am sick of the whole business & do not care to bother about it any longer. Col. [Henry W.] Birge has interested himself about it and may get the matter straight. I shall not resign until you tell me you want me to. My resignation has been disapproved more at my request than any thing else. I want you to feel, Dear Father, perfectly satisfied with your son Frank & to know that he is trying his best to please you. I will do any thing which will give you pleasure & in doing so will be the best way to please myself.

Edward [Leslie Molineux] has volunteered as Aide de Camp to Maj. Gen'l. [William Buel] Franklin & has gone off with the Texas Expedition. It is quite lonely with the regiment now as we only have about half a dozen of the old officers left. They have nearly all resigned & gone home. I do not know what I would do without Harry [Tiemann]. I do not see him very often, but hear from him every day or so. I take occasional rides on horse back, by way of a change. He always lends me a horse whenever I want one.

There is no news from the Expedition yet. It is not probable they will have an engagement before getting into Texas. It has cast a general gloom over this Deptmt. to hear of the defeat of Gen'l. [William Starke] Rosecrans [at Chickamauga]. God grant the reports we have heard be not true. Through Rebel sources we hear that Rosecrans was utterly defeated & driven back with tremendous loss. Of course this is not all true, but that it is partially true is beyond doubt. We are anxiously waiting for the papers from the North for a full account of the fight.

I have had several changes since I have been here in the way of appointments. I was acting Aide de Camp to Col. [George P.] Bissell [25<sup>th</sup> regiment Connecticut volunteers] in July last. I am now Acting Adjutant of the regiment. I remained on Col. Bissell's staff until he went home on the 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. I suppose if we get any conscripts I will be promoted to Captain.

You must take good care of yourself and get well again as fast as you can. It grieves & worries me terribly to hear that you are sick. I hope the baby has perfectly

recovered. Give my love to Nettie & all the rest. Tell them I shall be happy to hear from them now they are home.

& believe me  
Your loving & affectionate  
Frank