

Thibodaux La Nov. 3d 1863

Dear Father,

I received a letter from you on Sunday & should have answered it at once but being the end of the month, I have so much to do, that I postponed it.

We have had delightful weather for the last two or three days, but owing to previous heavy rains the ground is very damp & the mud very deep. It is gradually drying up however, & we will soon have good walking. If you can remember New Dorp S.I. [Staten Island] you will know pretty well what the mud is here.

Gen'l Banks has started on an expedition by Transports. All I know about where they are going is that they are going "South." I think this means Sabine Pass, but am not sure.

It has filled us all with surprise & regret to hear of the removal of [General William Starke] Rosecrans. We have heard nothing of him to warrant his removal, but I suppose Govt knows better than us what is right. I do not think that they can get a smarter man in the position than he was. I wish they would place him in command of this Depmt.

I have been taking a ride this morning, trying to find a place to go Duck shooting. There are plenty of such places around us, but there are so many go after them that they are pretty scarce. I succeeded in finding a place about four miles from here, & expect to go tomorrow morning.

Capt. Denslow did not come by the "Clinton," but by the "Continental" & he did not bring Harry's [Tiemann's] valise with him. It may have arrived by the "Clinton" in which case it is probably stored in New Orleans. Harry has sent down to N.O. to see about it.

Joe Stephenson has gone home. He sailed about 10 days ago. I think he went in the "Daniel Webster." I suppose he is home ere this.

The expedition which started by land for Texas has halted at Opelousas. It is reported they are coming back again. I think it was only meant as a blind & that "Banks" is going to have them all sent after him.

Harry is quite well. I enjoy excellent health & hope all at home enjoy the same blessing.

Give my love to all at home & tell them to write soon.

I remain
Your Affectionate Son
Frank