

Office, Provost Marshal  
Thibodaux, La. Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Father,

Your letters of the 27<sup>th</sup> Oct. to Harry [Tiemann] & myself have just been received & I sit down at once to answer mine.

Today I am Officer of the Provost Guard, which is not very hard except that I have to be up all night. Monday, I appear as one of a Court Martial about to sit in this place. It is one of the most tedious jobs an officer can have & I wish it was well over.

Harry is looking a great deal better then he has been & I hope soon to see him looking as well as ever.

There is no news from our army in the front. Everything appears to be perfectly quiet. Gen'l. [Cadwallader Colden] Washburne had a fight with & defeated the rebels some 10 days ago. We lost 40 killed, while their loss was 100 killed & 200 prisoners.

Gen'l. [Nathaniel P.] Banks' Expedition has not yet been heard from. I suppose we will not hear from him for some time to come.

I have heard that Edward [Leslie Molineux] was coming back to take command of the regiment. The position he holds on the staff is a very disagreeable one, I am told, & requires just such a man as he is. It is one more likely to make him enemies than friends. He is Inspector General & the army being short of transportation, he has to examine every wagon & see that no officer has more than his allowance & if he has, Edward has to see that all extra is thrown out.

Every thing around us is quiet. Constant rumors of a Guerrilla raid are prevailing, but they do not amount to any thing & are hardly listened to.

I went shooting the other morning but owing to the large size of the shot I used, I did not succeed in getting any thing. I expect to go again tomorrow morning when I hope I shall be more fortunate. There are plenty of Ducks about here, but they are so wild that it is difficult to shoot them.

We have again had a spell of stormy weather & the roads are almost impassible. The mud is about four inches deep & makes very disagreeable traveling. The weather continues to be warm.

The news from the Potomac is not very encouraging. The opinion generally expressed here is, to the effect, that the sooner the rebels take Washington D.C. the better it will be for the Country. It seems to me that something of this kind will have to be done before the people prosecute the war with the vigor it deserves.

I do not see much chance of resigning at present, but will do so at the first opportunity. It is a hard matter to get a resignation through as there are so few officers to each regiment.

Give my love to all at home. Hoping soon to receive another letter

I remain

Your Affectionate Son

Frank

Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>

A report has just been received, to the effect, that there has been a terrible battle on the Teche resulting in the defeat of our forces & the capture of a whole Brigade. I do not vouch for the truth of this.

Frank