Dear Father -

It has been a long time since I have received a letter from home although I have been in daily expectation of getting one. I hope all are well at home for I am almost afraid that is the reason for your not writing.

Genl. Steedman & Staff arrived here night before last to take command of the District & I should not be surprised if we were all started off from here before long. Where we will be sent or when, it is impossible to say. Every thing is in the dark as yet & until Genl. Steedman gets settled we can learn nothing. Edward says he will in all probability be home in a short time as this new Genl. has probably brought some favorite with him to put in command of the Post. I hope this will not be the case & so do all the Citizens of the place who all admire & respect Genl. Molineux more than any man they have had here yet. Every body asks "is Genl. Molineux going to be relieved. I hope not for I think we could not get a better man." Such expressions are very common & they show the regard in which he is held by the Citizens. I hope they will send us home soon for the weather is becoming terribly oppressive & warm. For four days the thermometer has averaged 94 in the shade, & no breeze blowing the air is like a fiery furnace. The inhabitants seem to think we are going to have a very sickly season & are in consequence extremely anxious to quit the city. Numbers have already gone North & others will go as soon as they finish their preparations. The box came safely to hand on the 5th inst. Did you send 5 or 6 shirts? There were but 5 shirts in the box. I am very much obliged indeed for the contents as they came in just at the right time.

Mr. Barnes has not got here yet & I am afraid he will not make much when he comes. Mr. Miles from R.D. & Co. has been here about two weeks. He says he has done nothing as no one has any money. He did intend to go North again but recd. a telegram to stay here till further orders, so I suppose they expect to make something out of it.

There is no business doing here at all. Gold yesterday was 150!! Cotton about 30¢. The Gold is being got to buy cotton with as in specie it costs only about 17¢. I expect it will go much higher as parties are holding on for higher prices. We have no news here of any kind. We are in direct communication with New York by telegraph & get dates of the same day when there is not too much business on the line.

Hoping this finds all well & with love to all

I remain
Your Affectionate Son
Frank.

Direct your letters to the regiment