At our first landing at the head of the canal. 2 o'clock P.M. June 16th, 1864.

I guess you will think on reading this letter that the main the boys write this the 9th army corps nig. Burnside traveling campairie is very appropriate. We crossed about noon yesterday a bed just finished the boards & made us beds for the night when the order came to recross & after waiting a few hours we marched back to this place. Our condition amounted to a ride across the river to Warrington of both which cost us a march of only 3 miles. The boys say we went over to miss to give an exhibition, but the officers were afraid we should scare the rebels so we retreated. We are now waiting to go on board the steamer Amaha which is to take us up the Missouri.
At our first landing at the head of the Canel 2 o’clock PM June 16th 1863

I guess you will think on reading this letter that the name the boys style this the 9th army Corps viz. Burnside traveling menagerie very appropriate. We crossed about noon yesterday & had just picked up boards & made us beds for the night when the order came to recross & after waiting a few hours we marched back to this place. Our expedition amounted to a ride across the river to Warrenton & back which cost us a march of only 8 miles. The boys say we went over to Miss. to give an exhibition, but the officers were afraid we should scare the rebs so we retreated.

We are now waiting to go on board the steamer Omaha which is to take us up the Yazoo
8 miles in the rear of
Richburg near Shields
Bluff, June 19th, 1863.

After waiting some 10 hours we
got aboard the steamer & steamed
up the river. Turned into the bayou
and came as far as the bluffs
on the bank of the bayou 2 miles
east of us. Left on the boat
that night. Then marched to
this place. These bluffs were
taken from the bayou some 6 weeks
ago. We spent several hours in
looking over the deserted fortifications.

In all of which there was one or
more immense smooth bore
10 x 15 inch guns marked 6 GTA.
This country back for miles is
well fortified & Johnson will find
it a hard road to travel to come in
this way & this is the only point
June 19, 1863
8 miles in the rear of
Vicksburg near Sniders
Bluff, June 19th 1863

After waiting some 10 hours we got aboard the steamer & steamed up the Miss. turned into the Yazoo and came as far as the bluffs on the bank of the Yazoo 2 miles east of us. Slept on the boat that night then marched to this place. Those bluffs were taken from the Rebs some 6 weeks ago. We spent several hours in looking over the deserted fortifications In all of which there was one or more immense smoothe bore 10 & 15 inch guns marked CSA.

This country back for miles is well fortified & Johnson will find it a hard road to travel to come in this way & this is his the only rout
They told us there were 1400 men at work daily on the fortifications. Our brigade is way back among the hills in the woods so I guess we shan’t have to dig much. We have just got a nice camp ground about one mile away in the woods and almost every tent is pitched under a shady tree. Splendid springs of water every where. The water seems delicious, and what we have been drinking. For miles around our camp the land is the most rough and uneven. I surmise that there are no rocks but high stumpy ridges with gulleys. I should have sent this letter yesterday but the blackberries were so thick about our camp I left writing go & went a blackberrying. We have had all the blackberries here we could possibly eat. Apples here are nearly ripe, the bugs found some
They told us there were 14000 men at work daily on the fortifications. Our brigade is way back among the hills in the woods so I guess we shan’t have to dig much. We have got a nice camp ground almost every tent is pitched under a shady tree. Splendid springs of water everywhere. The water seems delicious beside what we have been drinking. For miles around our camp the land is the most rough & uneven, I ever saw, there are no rocks but high steep ridges & deep gullies. I should have sent this letter yesterday but the blackberries were so thick about our camp I left writing go & went blackberrying. We have had all the blackberrys we could possibly eat. Apples here are nearly ripe the boys found some
The crops are coming along very nicely. The corn plants are very healthy, growing very well. The squash and pumpkins are thriving. The 18-inch squash has grown quite well. Patches of corn are visible on the field. The farmers are working hard to harvest their crops. Some stalks grew 13 feet long.

The weather has been quite warm and dry. The fields are very parched. The farmers are using water from the river to water the crops. Yesterday, we harvested a good amount of corn and squash.

I have been working on a new project. I have been building a shelter from the sun. I have been using the tops of several small trees to make a shelter. I have also been gathering wood from the nearby forest. The shelter is starting to take shape.

We have started building a new shelter for the cattle. We have been working hard on this project. The cattle are very happy with their new shelter.

I have been writing letters to my family. I have been sending updates on the farm and our progress. I have been using the mail to keep in touch.

I hope this letter finds you well. We have had a busy summer so far. Please let me know how you are doing.
quite ripe. Patches of corn the rebs planted the horders cut up for their horses. One stalk I saw 13 feet 2 inches in length. It was all silked out Rattle snakes are common here the boys killed one yesterday which had nine rattles. The weather is dreadful hot. And it almost melts us to go out in the sun in the heat of the day. I stand it first-rate I feel well as ever; we have a nice cool place for a tent under one of the big canopy made on the tops of several small trees the tops are thatched with a sort of vine so thick and firm as to make a complet arch way We Modica & myself have a rebel officers bed to lay on I got it out of an old rail house it is made of cane stocks we raised it about a foot from the ground & it is quite an easy bed cane stocks are found here in any quantity. Please send this letter to H. as soon as you can For I haven’t written to them since I left Cairo. Direct the same except leaving out Burnside’s Command The mail goes now We have had no mail

We are waiting hoping & anxiously wishing the mail would come I guess we shall get one to night Good buy W.J.T.