

July 10<sup>th</sup> 1868  
Dear Grandpa

I sealed up a letter yesterday but no mail has yet gone one goes at 5 P.M. so I write a little more and send in with the paper it is pretty dirty & was when we got it out of the coat pocket. But you must remember water is dreadful scarce & probably the neps dont wash their hands much oftenier than we do. The verses & the postal postage stamp we got out of the house I got the sheet of letter paper. The name you will find on the hem of a pillar case I captured I send. I got a nice linen handkerchief and a piece of linen yesterday I cut the pillar case up to make

PAGE 1

July 7 1863

Dear Friends:

I sealed up a letter yesterday but no mail has yet gone one goes at 5 PM so I write a little more and send in with the paper it is pretty dirty & was when we got it out of the coat pocket. But you must remember water is dreadful scars & probably the rebs don't wash their hands much ofener than we do

The verses & the rebel postage stamp we got out of the house I got a sheet of letter paper. The name you will find on the hem of pilar case I captured I send. I got a nice linen handkerchiefs and a piece of linen, yesterday I cut the pillar case up to make

page of paper signed by Joseph  
captured a letter written only a  
few weeks ago on which is rebel  
postage stamps he sends it home  
perhaps you can see it please  
pursue the papers & the articles I  
send. We got a mail Saturday  
and another to-day but no letters  
for me. Last night our batteries  
commenced shelling the rebels  
the fire at intervals all last night  
and this morning they are doing  
the same the rebels won't reply

I learn we have them surrounded  
The 86 Mass went out this forenoon  
reconnoitering to see about putting  
pontons across the Pearl river

I would not wonder if we went  
across. The Hillsboro boys are  
all well & tough. I think there will  
be but a little fighting here for  
everything looks like a siege Grant  
will starve & pound them out as  
he did at Vicksburg

Write soon  
Yours in haste W. D. Hooker

PAGE 2

bags of for the sugar & coffee. Joseph captured a letter written only a few weeks ago on which is rebel postage stamps he sends it home perhaps you can see it please preserve the paper & the relics I send. We got a mail Saturday and another to-day but no letters for me. Last night our batteries commenced shelling the rebs the fired at intervals all last night and this morning they are doing the same the rebs wont reply

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Yours in Haste W.J. Templeton