

No 32

Columbian College Hospital Washington D.C.
March 8th 1863

Dear Mother

Yours of the 27th came duly at hand and I was happy to learn that you were all in better health than when I last heard. My pen is unable to describe how much good such letters from you Mother do me and I am often made to believe they do me more good than the Dr.'s medicine. Moore's letter of the 4th came to hand yesterday containing the joyful news that I had been promoted to Venecliship and just as MC expected I said to myself; well that is smart. But how I should like to see the little so called niece of C.W. I was glad to learn that M and the child were both so well but I imagine Marc is quite uncertain which end his head is on although his head seemed very clear when he wrote me. I thought a week or ten days ago that I might possibly have an opportunity of just peeping in upon you by

this time but it has all fell through
and there is no sight now of getting any
nearer Home at present But I do wish
I could move now than ever and some-
thing tells me that I am going to live
to see you all again at Home

My health is much improved since I wrote
you last and I do not imagine that I
shal remain here many days longer
I hope not at least for I am anxious now
that I cannot get a furlow to get back to
the Regt My throat is entirely well and
my bowels are much better and more
regular than they have been for some
time I have a good appetite and can
eat anything, and perhaps you would
like to know what our diet is, I mean
those that are considered able to go to the
Kiss Room Well this morning we had
mush and molasses (lasty pudding) with
^{one} asher of bread and something they call
coffee but I cant drink it both for its taste
and its effects so I pay 5 cts and get a pint
of milk The dinner is some better today
we had soup, boiled beef, do, potatoes with
cabbage & turnip and bread; for supper
we shal have coffee ~~with~~ ^{and} bread with either
applesauce cheese or butter which will

be strong enough to take Richmond Va. Not
much like that of yours which I am sorry to
say is all gone but we can buy very good butter
of the Sutter here for 2,30 cts. Tomorrow morning
we shal have hash and for dinner bean soup
I should think this was high living if I was
out in the front with the Regt but it is
seldom that I sit down with the multitude
without thinking of Mothers buttry
We have had awful weather of late it has rained
as often as every other day and if you could see
the mud you would say at once give me
the snows of Vt. Dr Crossbys name is
Thomas B. I do not know whether he is any
connection of the one you spoke of or not -
I will try and find out. I am waiting patiently
to hear from S as I want a little more money
to by little necessaries which I feel that
I need and to fix up my clothes some
before I leave here I think I shal draw me
a drap Coat tomorrow but it is not to impossible
to get one to fit with in gunshot without
fixing one. There is no signs of being
paid off here yet I received a letter from
Sprague the same day of yours said they
were injuring themselves first rate but were
all out of money and P. Stamps and couldnt
see any signs of the Paymaster

I congratulate I on his appointment as super-
intendent of C Schools for the Town of B.

Tell him if I should get my discharge this spring
I should be happy to take the job off his hands
during the ~~Summer~~ as I think I could
give satisfactory returns: However I trust he
will be successful himself I hope if he is
to remain at Home that Father will let him
have the management and go ahead. He
must know that I is better able and more
capable of it than himself.

I am anxious to get a N paper and hear the
return of Elections and also from N.H. I
fear N.H. will go Democratic with the Copperheads
but hope not. I am willing to confess that I
never was so uneasy about the State elections
as at the present time. But war seems sure
to be very quiet at present - and N-H is as dull
as any other Country Town. But I must close.
The rest of the boys with me are all asleep 5 of them
in all 1 from N.H. 1 from Mich. 1 from Penn. and 2 from
Conn. all good fellows and we pass off some of the
time very pleasantly together.
You said you had heard from Uncle Stephen I have
forgotten his address or I would write him. Neither
do I know Uncle Joel or Frank's address since they
have moved. I wish you would inform me.
I sent a letter to Mark the 4th
puck lay to all with a beautiful share
to yourself Mother and a kiss for Kate and
the Baby. Adieu your great son

Sergt. Chas. W. Wilcox.