

a little more sense yet

Darling I shall have to close
this scrawl of a letter for now
Write to me as soon as you
get this for it seems like an
ever lasting while since I have
heard from you Dear

excuse poor writing and I
will try and do better next time
as ever yours. Adrian

Sadie Sweet

Adrian Fay

Camp Parole Annapolis

Jan 3rd 1864

Dear Sadie

I have just received your
kind letter and was glad to hear
from you I hope you are well
I shall love to hear from you
again soon

I shall love to hear from you
again soon

I shall love to hear from you
again soon

I shall love to hear from you
again soon

I shall love to hear from you
again soon

I shall love to hear from you
again soon

I shall love to hear from you
again soon

Oh Darling you dont know how lonesome
Sadie is without you this winter
I am 19th October
do with do much I wish he did not
come to school

Camp Parole
Annapolis Md.

January 3rd 1864

My Dear Sadie

It has been
a long time since I have heard
from you or since I have written
to you. but there is no one to
blame for it. after I left Daniels
Island I thought I would not write
until I got to the Regt. and I got
here yesterday and the first thing
I thought of was to write to
you for I know you are wandering.
Why I dont write. I commenced
a letter last night but the mail
did not go out until tomorrow
so I went it up and thought
I would commence as thus am today

Sarah

perhaps when I come to look
this over I shall find something
in it that sounds so flat and
silly that I will burn this up
too. But if I should not find
any thing that sounds flat
and silly - perhaps you will and
you can burn it then

They told us at Washington
that our Regt was all here but
they are not. There is only about
one hundred of us now -
but we expect the whole Regt.
here this month - and I hope
they will come for I think
we could serve our time out
here as easy as we could in
the field. There is a great many
of the Soldiers enlisted again
into the "V. V.'s." but I don't much
think I shall. The great Bounty
is out so much of a temptation
to me as some other things are

if "Uncle Sam" is not satisfied
to let me go home when I have
served three years he can disown
me if he likes. I started from
Davids Island the 18th of December
and have been ever since then
getting here. I was four days
coming to Alexandria and was
there a bout a week and then
came to Baltimore and was there
new years day - but I did not
enjoy myself very well after all
for I was in such a hurry to get
to the Regt. Christmas day I was
in the Camp and Flank and
and we had a very good time
all a long to our selves. But I
suppose Post is at home
now he was lucky enough to
get his Discharge. I was examined
but the Doctor told me I was all
sound and was able to do

of
Montrose



Alexander Gray
Great Valley
Cattaraugus Co.
N. Y.

to write, as else I shant
- to write or else I shant
to write or else I shant
Address write I shant

Adrian Fay
Camp Parole Annapolis Md.
Care of Cal. of R. Root

Mansfield
the drive house
answer to the
Drive house
I bit

Montrose
The I I
100

Mr Mer Adrian Fay
Camp Parole Md.
Care of Cal. Root
Camp Parole

~~Annapolis Md Jan 1/64~~
Camp Parole Annapolis Md
January 3rd 1864
Dear Father

I suppose you are
all waiting anxiously to hear from
me and to know when I am and
what I am doing - I got here to
Annapolis yesterday but I did not
find all of the Regt. here as
they staid us at Alexandria
but there is a boat 100 of us
here and the rest are in the
Grant yet but we are expect-
ing them here this month
it is a first rate place here and
if the Cal. succeeds in getting

The rest of the Regt. here which
he is in great hopes of doing. We
shall have good times here and
be every likely to see the rest
of our time out here. But it
is not certain yet that he can
get them here. I left Alexandria
the next day after Post came
a way and came to Baltimore
and staid there until yesterday.
We are not doing any thing
now hardly, and every day that
we work here doing any extra
duty around the camp we
get 25 cents extra pay. I think
I shall go to work to mow
and try it. I guess I can work
enough to earn what spending
money I want. I thought it is
hard for a Soldier to think
of going to work. But I
think I shall try it for a while
any way and see what it gets

I shall send to mow for
my discription list and
perhaps I shall get some pay
this pay day. We shall get pay
here in a least two weeks.

There is a great many of the old
trappers enlisting over again. I
would not mind enlisting if it
was not for one thing, and
that is what all troops that do
enlist are counted in to fill the
last call, and I dont like that.
I dont want to reenlist
just to some some other man
fear coming out that
never has tried the field. I
dont think that is right.

Write as soon as you get
this and tell me what the
news are and who is going
to be President in winter
this fall. Give my respects to
all the folks and tell them all

20 f

1864

Adrian Gay
Capt. 94th Regt. of N.Y. St.
Camp Parole Annapolis
Md.

Camp Parole
Annapolis Md. Jan. 2nd 1864

Dear Sister Mary

It has been a long
time since I have writin to you
or since I have heard from home
so I thought I should write you a
short letter as I have nothing else
to do to day. and to morrow I am
on guard or shall be and will have
no chance to write I shall look
for a letter to night from home
for I think it is a bout time I
got a letter from some of the
Balks. every thing goes of well here we
are looking for the Regt. here to
night they are coming here sure
for the Col. has sent for them

Evening. I will try and finish this
letter this evening and tell you all
I cant what we are doing. The Regt. has
not come yet but I think they will
be here by Monday night sure.

We shall have to go on guard pretty
often I expect when they get here
it is very cold weather here now
the snow is about four inches
deep and it is rather cold standing
guard these cold nights. But it is
better than it is in France.

I like this place first rate I hope
we shall stay here until our time
is out and I think we shall
for there has got to be some Regt.
here. There is a Maryland Regt.
here now but their time is out &
will go home in a few days & we
are to take their place.

I want you to write to me
as soon as you get this
and tell me all the news

Tell me where Manton is
and what Pa. is doing and
if he keeps that old plug you
and have they like the school
and all the News, you know
If I had the patients to write
I suppose I could write lots of
things that happens here every
day that would be interesting
to you but I have not the
patients to write, especially
when I dont get any letters
from home as any where
else.

Well this is all I can
think of to right write
you and oblige

Adrian

The Boys are getting ready for
a dance to night I will
give you a falight invitation
will you come? it shant

Can you write me nothing

Award the other day and gave
 it to him it cost \$5 dollars you
 can see by that how much they
 think of him. We are quartered now
 in Barracks which is comfortable
 and warm and each company
 has a cook so you see we have
 every thing just as good as could
 I don't think I ever was so healthy
 since I have been in the Army
 as I am now. I believe it was
 good to be sick last fall. Pvt Davis
 an old chum of mine was taken
 prisoner a bout a month ago while
 he was on picket I suppose the
 Rebs have got him in Richmond
 now if they have not killed him
 he was taken at Gettysburg and
 never had been exchanged so I
 am afraid it will go hard
 with the poor fellow if they find
 it out it will be to bad if they
 do kill him for he is a good
 Soldier

Add
 My Dear Sarah
 I received your
 letter this morning and you may
 be sure that I was glad to
 get an other letter from Sarah
 I have not had a letter from Great
 Valley since I left Davids Island
 until I got your letter this morning
 Sarah I do believe you are the only
 one that cares much for me for
 mother or Nat dont write to me
 once in a days age hardly. I am
 sorry I did not get the letter you wrote
 me Christmas day but see another

Camp Parale, Annapolis Md
 January 14th 1864

My Darling Sarah

I received your
 letter this morning and you may
 be sure that I was glad to
 get an other letter from Sarah
 I have not had a letter from Great
 Valley since I left Davids Island
 until I got your letter this morning
 Sarah I do believe you are the only
 one that cares much for me for
 mother or Nat dont write to me
 once in a days age hardly. I am
 sorry I did not get the letter you wrote
 me Christmas day but see another

Thue I have made a horrid mistake
Turn over.

Sadin I am glad you are having no
trouble with your school & was
a afraid those large boys would
cause you trouble but if you have
got the good will of your scholars
you are all right. I dont see
why you need to be so lonsome
Sadin you must not be lonsome
I know how it goes I have been
lonsome too before now but it
is all useless. Well Darling I shall
have to leave you for now for it
is time for deef Parthe and I shall
have to go I will finish this now
for if I dont put it into the
affair to night it will not get
to you until next week. if this
goes Abrah through you will get it
saturday Please write or saamas
you get this and I will write
you a good long letter next Sunday
if I am not an duty

to believe for it and you can
write me an other cant you
Sadin I dont feel much like writing
to day for I was on guard last
night and did not get a chance to
sleep sensly at all. so you must
excuse all the mistakes I am making
but you will do well if you can
read this awful scrawl.
Oh Sadin I have got some
~~good news to tell you~~ Our Regt
all came here yesterday and we
are going to do duty here the Col
told us last night that if our
our good Boys are might stay
here until our time was out
and not have to go back into the
field again the boys are so glad
that they have got here that they
almost worship Col. Peab. for he
had to work hard to get us here
I think he is the best man I ever
saw. We caught him & splend

Will you thought you
would did you? your letter
of the 12th I just received I was
glad to hear from him again
you wanted to know where
Peet Daves is. I guess he is in
Richmond the Rebs took him
one day while he and Dick
Cook was out a Gophacking
more than a month ago and
the news has heard from
him since. William is here.

Will I have written all the
news already. But I will
see if I can think of
something more this after
noon

Adrian

Camp Parole Annapolis Md.
January 18th 1864

Dear Mother

I will try once more
and write an other letter home
and if I dont get a letter from
some of you my writing has
"plaid out" do ye mind that.
I have written two letters home
since I came here and have
received no answer yet and
this is the last until I get
one from some of you. do
you understand? We are all
well here the Boys are enjoying
them selves good. We have to
go on guard pretty often. But

that is nothing if we can
only stay here our time out
We should be satisfied even
if we have a good deal to do

But the most of the 94th are
enlisting again. Genl. Root
will reenlist and he wants
all the Boys to do so to. and
nearly every man will reenlist
"94th N. Y. Veteran Regiment"
how does that sound?

When you write tell me how
much Bounty and Tamers
Bounty Genl. is paying

I dont think I shall reenlist
though But I want to know
how much Bounty I could
get if I should enlist that's
all. I havent got any Pay
yet But I think We shall be
Paid soon I wish I knew
how you was getting a long
if I thought you could

aford it I would like to
have you send me a small
Box of things Perhaps I had
better wait until I get some
Pay. so that it wont cost you
any thing but the trouble.
I shouldnt want a Box that
would weigh over 25 or 30
Pounds not have it cost over
\$1.00 or 2.00 doll. I shouldnt want
for one thing a little tin
Pail with a cover on it. full
of Butter and some dried Beans
if you have got them and Cakes
and one thing and another
such as you thought best
to keep from breaking as
smashing up. if you
send me get a Glass Box down
to Phelps and tell him what
you want to do with it.
only a small Box now do
ye mind?

We have not had any
pay yet and I dont
know where we shall
get any

We have got a good place
here good barracks to stay
in but we have to go on
guard pretty often

They are as strict with us
as they can be We have
got to come to town as
go to the guard house
for a sack of bread
and butter

that is all this time

Write a gain soon
you will have to send
a postage stamp if I
write a gain
Adrian

Dear brother
I'm in pretty good luck

Camp Parale Mo
January 24th 1864

Dear Brother

Your letter of
the 18th I received about
3 minutes ago. I was glad to
hear from you you are just
the man I wanted to hear
from. I thought you had got
over your War fever.

I dont know but am rem-
idy for the War fever.
There is one way that it can
be cured that is the only way
it can be cured too I guess.
And that is to enlist for

three years as during the
War. Then at the end of three
years I let you want
have the least symptoms of
the War fever.

See you see the boys have
an purlough that have enlist-
ed. they have got plenty of
Money they can get married
spend their money and
enjoy them selves good for
a few days. But it is as
we often express it here
When a man enlists.
he is 30 days in Paradise
and three years in Hell.

I shant advise you to enlist
as not to you can do as
you think best. But mind
one thing if you know yours
As you must sit on the
Blisters. I thought you were
working for Wright what

see you not work there now
I have had a great notion of
enlisting but I have got off
from that notion now I
think I shall wait until I
have served three years and
then if I want to be a Sol-
dier any longer I shall go
where I want have to eat
a knapsack all around the
country "With the Red tan
Duck", go a hard a man was
that is the place for me.

I have not seen Bell Kingsley
he is down town in some
Hospital. When I go town
town again I will go and
see him if I can find
him. I think Dad is fool-
ish to keep that artil-
lery if he has to pay
pay for her

I cant think of mind
to write this evening
When I came home
I can tell you all
the news.

Admiral

P.S. You must not
send me any Box

Now dont messy on my
account. Will you?

I am a Man now and I
think I know my own
Biz.

We had a gay old Patacan
bill to day.

I think if I was in London
I never should do with the
Sunday but I dont think
the Friday will be the first to
be discharged though

Camp Parah
Amnapalis 1844

Jan 25th 1844

Dear Mother

I will writ you
a letter this evening to pay for
the two letters I got yesterday
from home. Manrass I suppose
has entered I dont know
but it is for the best
for he never will be satisfied
until he has tried Soulding my
Perhaps you will think I am
foolish when you hear that I
have made up my mind to
enlist for three years longer
or But I have considered it
all over with Caspian

and have come to the
conclusion that it is the
best thing I can do, taking
all things in consideration
I dont expect I shall have
to stay three years. But if I
do I dont expect to go thro
ough more as much hardship
as I have. I think the most
of the fighting is done and
we shall be likely to stay here
one year I think any way and
by that time the fighting
will be done I have thought
it all over carefully and think
I have done right in enlist-
ing. I hope you wont feel
hard to words me for doing as
I have, or give your self any
uneasiness about me.
I am healthy and laugh I never
was so tough in all

my life as I am now I
dont think. I dont expect
to get a furlough until after
the first of March, as far
of us have got to stay here
and do duty while the rest
go home, and there is a lot
going away Monday, and the
one that enlisted first will go
home first. I dont reckon
so much bounty as Peck says
he says it amounts to eleven
hundred so Manly told me
I cant make out only \$444
(not including my old Bounty,
\$300 town \$49 State and \$402
United States) if he can make
out any more. Where is it?
Ed Post has enlisted and
Chapman and I guess
Dan Santhornick will

I am thinking I shall be awfully busy I will be back in a few days I will be back in a few days I will be back in a few days

I had just as leaves next a month as not before I go. Then "Johnson" and "Mite" are married are they? "is that the way the soldiers do that get furloughs now a days?" There has been a great change in the program. No Kelley did not tell "there" I have made a mistake "Mary" either did not tell me of the fake Kelley got off an Coast and me I never have heard any thing about it "what is it?" "Something Land" I'll bet. Well my paper has been cut and I must quit ^{soon} as near your Adrian ^{with} Darling ^{for}

Camp Parale Annapolis
 Jan 30th 1864
 My Darling Sadie
 I recd your letter Wednesday but I have not had time to answer it. I was very glad Dear to get your letter. The weather has been very warm and pleasant for the past week. We have had only one hard snow storm but yet there there was not snow enough to make good sleighing.
 Sadie I dont know but you will think that I dont love you near as much as I have

after told you that I did
When you hear that I have
reenlisted. But I do love
you Darling better than I
can tell you with my Pen or
even my tongue. I would
fail to express half the aff
ections and love I have
for you. I do not doubt your
love Sadie in the least. I
know you are a precious good
girl. and I shall be so glad
when this War is over and
we can all be at home again
and see men and enjoy the
society of our Darling ones.
But until the War is ended
I dont believe I could stay
at home and be contented
"that that I mean to hast ^{forward}
being Patriotic". But I want

to be in the Army when
Peace is declared. and that I
trust will be soon. One man
sumner will unwind this
Rebellion and leave its scature
fragments to the Mercy of
Old "Abn." perhaps as some
other worthy Union Man.
I dont expect to have to stay
three years longer. but then
I may if I do. it is not as
if I had got to go to "State
Prison" for some wicked crime
is it? I shall be home on
a furlough soon though I
cant tell how soon there is
a lot going on furloughs
Monday but I dont know
whether I shall go then or
not. Col. Root told us the
other day while we were at

the man that
I mean that
I said
I came out
ought to
get the Bounty and
the fighting had ought to
I think the that I have
left more part in when
Will note there is lots of
news that I could write. But
I cant think what to write
first so I quit it quit.
you need not answer this till
you get ready for I am coming
home same time I cant tell
nothin though I suppose I will
intituled to the same Bounty as
soon as I am mustered in
and that will be before
the first of March as not
at all. What do the Caps
think of Abies last call
for 30000 men? hey that is
the way. I wish he would
call for as many more
I dont want to quit now until
the play is out. for the
"Was" as sooner killed
Malley Malley
had it. So he had.

at
Bounty
the
Bounty
the
Bounty

I am fallen in to it and
shed the morning in more
near branches as something
like that. kind in
I hope there I guess
as soon as

94th Regt

Camp Parole Annapolis Md

February 3^d 1864

Dear Sister

I recd a letter
from you and Mother and
Montrose all at the same
time. So I answered the one
I thought was the most
important one to answer at
that present time. and would
wait until some other time
to answer yours and Montrose
I will now try and answer you
this evening. But I cant answer
Montrose until I find out
where he is. for I suppose he

has gone before this time
The night Bath is an
over and I shall be an

What do you think of me
re-enlisting? I hope there is
none of you that are foolish
enough to worry and put
a heart on me. I suppose Ma.
will feel lead to have Bath
of us away at once. But she
must not think of keeping
us always in her sight for
that cant be. Her Boys have
got too much "confidence" in
themselves to "think" of being
tied to one saord spot of
"Gods creation" (especially that of
"Shintown") What do you think?
Ha! going to get Married in the
Spring? What Spring? Our spring
Or not Spring after Winter?
So what? To who? any one
that I know or not?
Lead mistake *Shek & ...*

The Boys are all fighting
Casts

Well I am coming home
this Winter I guess the talk
is that we will get our first
wages this week. But I dont
much think we will. I have
not been mustered in yet so
have not got any money yet
but I guess Bath, Southwick
and I will be mustered in
before long so that we shall
all go home to gather. There
has not any game yet. Col. Root
says we third of the Regt can
go at a time so if we do
I think I shall go in the
first Squad. but may not
until the second Squad
goes. any time will do me only
if the Bounty is secure so that
I can get that I dont want
to lose that for there is

I dont care waha your
marry I am sure
I calculate to tind to my own
afairs and let others do
the same. does Mantrone
think of going into the
9th N^o Y^r Cav? I thought
if he did he would go back
when "Joe Foster" did.

Tell Po to write and tell
me if he thinks I am
sure of the Yarrow and
county Bounty. if they
cheat me out of the Bounty
I shall Back out. for I
am not fast yet, untill I
am sworn in.

Write soon Mate
Our Regt is a going to have
a new stand of Veteran
Colours Culias Merian

Camp of the 94th N^o Y^r Cav
Annapolis Md
February 9th 1864

Dear Sister Mate

I recd your letter last
night. Was glad to get the
letter and also the "Stamps"
for money has pliced out
but I shall get some
before long I guess. I
have not been ~~sworn in~~ sworn
in yet. But expect to
before a great while
then I shall get all my
back pay and my old
Bounty, which will make
a bank 160 dollars or more.
I guess you had not got my
letter when you wrote for you

didn't say any thing about my
re-enlisting. I have been wanting
to find out how much County
and Town Bounty I shall get
But I have not found out for
certain yet I expect I shall
get \$300 from the State now
such an act has been passed
I believe. I understand the
Town of Hgt Valley pays
\$300 But whether the County
pays any thing or not I don't
know. I shant be at home
in more than a month
for I can not swear in
and can not go in the first
squad there is a lieutenant
going to marran the rest
will have to wait till they
get back for they cant
spair us all at once

I expect to get a letter to
Marran from Mathus then
I shall know what she thinks
about my enlisting. You can
do as you please about
sending that But if you
have not got it ready
you need not send it
But if you have got it
all ready to send you
may send it. Well Mat
I could think of lots to
write if I had time to
write and felt more
like writing. But I guess
this will do for this time
If you are a going to
get married why in the
under dont you say so
not ask me what I
think about it



94th Regt. V. U. S. A.
Camp Parake Annapolis Md
February 12th 1.64

Dearest Sarah

I will write you a few lines this evening if I can think of any thing to write I came off guard this morning and I feel more like sleeping than writing. But I recd. your letter this morning therefore I consider it a duty as well as a Privilege to answer it. There is not much news here except we are all well and hearty, and have a good deal of duty to do now as about 130 of the Boys have gone home on furloughs they left here day before yesterday and as soon as they get back the rest of us will get ones it will be sometime in March before I shall get home but that is soon enough I hope the folks will be making Shugars then. I dont know as I care about going to any "Surprise parties" though But I would like well enough to go to "Great" Wedding. Wonder if they want get married expressly to gratify my curiosity of seeing a wedding? I suppose the Boys that have home on furloughs had gay old times. I mean to make every minute of my time count for I dont expect to get home again until the war is ended. Almost all of our Regt. have enlisted I did not think so many would enlist

There is a stand of Cutlers down to the City that is to be presented to us as soon as we are all mustered in. I expect we shall have a great time when they are presented to us.

I would not advise "going" to enlist unless there is danger of his being accepted. Going would make a good Saldier though he would be worth more than twenty like Crueille or Montrose either I don't believe Montrose will stand Saldiering long I don't believe he is very tough any way.

Sadie I can't help thinking of the good times I shall have while I am at home I can't keep it out of my mind. But then I should like it better if I was earning home to stay and not have to come back a gain. But I have to leave that in mind that I have got to come back here and stay three years perhaps. Will Darling I don't know what more I can write that will be news and I am getting awfully sleepy and I must go to bed so good night Dear Sadie and pleasant dreams to you.

Saturday Morning. Sadie I will finish this scrawl of a letter this morning I am not on duty to day I expected to go on guard again to day but I shall wait till to morrow. We are having splendid weather now it is warm and pleasant like May days in Cott. There hasn't been any snow here since the first of January. How would you like to live in such a Country as this. But there is wind enough some times to make up for the lack of snow. Co. A. are having a gay time this morning they are making more noise than a tub. Regt had ought to they just took one of their Boys

held of the blanket and tuck him up and down for a half an hour at a time it is nearly as hot punishment as a shavers bath. Saldiers are great fellows for sport when they have nothing else to do. Will Dearest I guess I will bring this long mess to a close I shall have more to tell you when I get home than would fill four such sheets so I will write till then. Write soon please Darling for "Add" wants to hear from you often.
Truly yours Loving Adrien

P.S. Please mind advising your letter in care of Col. Post the mail is so arranged now that there is no need of it.

Please this large sheet of paper I wish I could fill it with something interesting I don't you.

Charlie Adrien

Camp Parole Amiaspolis N^d

February 22^d 1861

Dear Father

you can go to the
Express office at great valley and get
\$230⁰⁰ dollars that I ordered to day
I was mustered in the 13th of February
and received \$230⁰⁰ dollars my old 100
Bounty 45 of my new Bounty and 6
months pay. I am well as usual
will probably be at home in about
a month from now

You can keep the money until
I get home as pay what is due
in the place just as you think
best

that is all this time

Respectfully yours

Adrian Fay

P.S.

I have paid the Expressage

Dear Lady

to the next time

the best of health & am
I am ever your affectionate friend

Camp Parole Md

Feb 28th 184

Dearest

Your letter was gladly received
Thursday Morning. I was so glad
to hear from you & that you can't
quite have glad Addⁿ is to get a letter
from you. I have neglected answering
it because I could not think of
any thing to tell you that will be
news. But if I could do you I guess
I could think of something to say
to you you need not think you
are going to do all the talking
I shall say something I guess. And
I shouldn't wonder if you got as tired
of hearing me talk as you do of

that "Mr Delfie" you tell so much
of what kind of a fool is in any
way? I think you was smart to
have him as you did. Didnt you
ask him to call a quack? You
and Kie are awful girls. Would
you dair treat a "soldier" in that
way? "I dont think you would"
He. more days and then I shall
be looking for my furlough
that isnt a great while is it? it
wont pass long to me now
I suppose you are glad your
school is out and you free from
all the duties and cares of the
school room once more.
And there is another thing
that makes me glad. And
that is if Harveys folks are
going a way I hope they will
go before I get there

Tell Kie that my "Phelings"
are that "Pheni" sort in much
of a laps to community as Mrs
Harvey either. But for all that
they will be respected. But I dont
know who will mourn this laps
Sadie I cant think of any thing
to write you to night. I shall
be on guard to morrow and I
shall have to leave you for to
night and I go to sleep so
I can keep a wake to morrow
night. Write as soon as you
get this Darling and you will
please your own Adrian.
So good night my Precious and
excuse me for not writing now
~~but~~ I have not time this evening
I will come and see you soon
Sadie Good night
ours yours Adrian

Camp Parake
March 8th 1864

I sent by the Adams express Co.
#230 #230 Allan to you. Two Weeks
ago yesterday. I have written home twice and
mentioned both times that I had
sent the money. And it is time
I had heard from it if it ever got
there. I want you to write as soon
as you get this. With out fail and
let me know about it.

Perhaps you have got it and think
I am coming home soon and
you have neglected writing.
But dont flatter your self there
is no certainty of my coming home
at all.

Prater and Write as quick
as you get this

Adrian

Camp Parole Ind.

March 13th 1864

My Dear Sadie

As I am out on duty
to day and can think about nothing
else to do to keep myself out of
trouble I thought I would
write to you again I wrote to you
I think it was one day last week
I have received no answer yet
Perhaps you are looking for me
I have seen in the reason you
have not written. We are expecting
to go now every day but I don't
think we shall go until the
last of next week. I'm honest
I wish the boys get back so that

went a way I wrote to my folks
that I didnt think I should come
home at all the reason I wrote
was that I was mad because they
did not write to me it was most
fairs week before since I got a letter
from home until last night
I should not have cared so much
about it only I sent home
some money and I wanted to
know if it had got through all
safe or not. So I stretched the
truth a little just to make them
write. Oh Dear Mother I shall be
so glad when I get started for
home I dont know what to
do it seemed longer to write
than I thought it was a gainy
to but it wasnt he lang now
I was down town the other day
and saw Tell he was a

coming up here and I met him
on the way he gave me some
things to take home to his
folks. He had a good sizeable
time. He told me something the
you wrote to him. "I wonder if it
will turn out to be so" I should
not wonder much if it did.
We are having very good weather
here now only the wind blows
enough to blow a fellows head
off. When you get the English post
forward I shall have to go so
good By Darling I shall be at
home in a few days
ours yours Adrien

Camp Parole Md.
March 27th

Father

I sent 230 dollars to
you three weeks ago last
Monday by Adams Express
Co. and I have not heard
whether it has ever got
there or not. I have written
three or four times to
find out. But can get
no answer from you.
And now "By Thunder,
I want you to let me
know "immediately" whether
you have got it or not.
Adrian Pray

Requisition No. 89

To Erie Railway Co

FOR TRANSPORTATION—

From Dunkirk

To Baltimore

No. Deputy Provost Marshal.

" Special Agents.

" Guards, (Civilians.)

" Drafted persons to the rendezvous from place of residence.

" Drafted persons from rendezvous to place of residence in case discharge.

For Provost
Wm H. Davis
David Southwick Jr
Adrian Fay
Co' D 94 N.Y.S.V.
(returning from Fulagh)

Date May 6, 1864.

Given by Capt Geo W Palmer

Provost Marshal,

31 District, State New York

Headquarters, Annapolis, Md
May 6th, 1864

My Dear Mother,

It is a late hour and I am sufficiently tired to appreciate the merits of my blankets but I haven't yet thanked you for your good letter of the 19th *ultimo* and, today having been my birthday - or rather its anniversary, I feel particularly called-upon to send you four pages of greeting before I shut my eyes tonight. I'm afraid I haven't written you since April 7th. I cannot begin to attempt to tell you what I have done since then. It seems almost easier to tell you what I haven't done. The past month seems to have been a dream - a laborious one, though - and one of such intensity of exertion that I find myself wondering if I am Ad Root who used to live in Buffalo, New York.

You are aware by now that I command this entire district. The War Department, however, has not relieved me from the command of Camp Parole and I discharge the duties of two separate positions. I pass the forenoon at Camp Parole's HQ and the afternoon at HQ, Annapolis. At the former place I forward reports, etc, to Colonel AR Root, Cnding Post; at the latter place I forward reports, etc, to Colonel AR Root, Cnding Camp Parole. Rather odd and, therefore, enjoyable to a certain extent..... what work! Three days past I had received orders to allow no one to leave Annapolis without a pass signed by me. Just imagine the amounts of "AR Roots" I have to afix to passes. I enclose some of my orders for your edification.

Since writing you last I have been to Washington, Baltimore, & Philadelphia, where (Philadelphia) I stopped at *The Continental* and had a grand time with some friends from Buffalo, New York.

I wonder how old I am today? Is it 31 or 32? Put it at 31 if you can consistently, and spare my youth to me a little longer. When are you coming here? Your room is all ready for you and Little Nettie, who must come with you, of course. Tell Nettie that her little puppy trots down to the railway station every day to watch for her and comes back to the house with his tail hanging down, his eyes full of tears, and a bone in his mouth. I have a kitten now - a first-class kitten - which plays ball every day with the puppy. She gets her back up once in a while, and then it looks like pup changes his base into a corner of my parlor and looks discouraged if not entirely demoralized.

My house looks beautiful. It is fairly embowered in a grove of shrubbery with a lawn, a flower garden, and an orchard around it. The garden has lilacs (the natives call them *lavlocks*) and all manner of flowers with variegated lines. Mrs PG Cook¹ says it's splendid and I suppose it really is. Please tell me when you are coming here so that I may know when to expect you.

Of course, you are wondering how my health stands this constant pressure. I'm glad to be able to tell you that I am strong and well and feel capable of doing all that I am called upon to do thoroughly and well. I am pleased to know that the War Department is satisfied with me. Colonel W Hoffman, the Commissary General of Prisoners,² inspected Camp Parole on Tuesday last and said that he could suggest no improvements. I don't think he could or anyone else, either! Ah, what self-complacency and egotism all this is, you will say. Never mind. Wait 'til Mrs Cook brings you a picture of Camp Parole. She goes to Buffalo next week.

Here are thirty dollars to spend for me. *Let 'em slide* and don't deprive yourself of anything you want.

There, I intended to stop writing when my fourth page was full and it's filled before I have told you what General Burnside did when he was here with his Corps.³ He was very pleased with my veterans in the 94th and he made personal application to General Halleck and Mr Stanton for me and my regiment to serve with the 9th Corps. I to have command of a veteran brigade. Mr Stanton told General B that "Colonel R & the 94th can't be spared." How are you, Burnside?

I have very frequently felt as though I and my veterans should be in the field during this, as I believe, the decisive campaign of the war, but I readily see that I am quite as useful here as I could be there. And somebody must be here.....

There, I'll stop for tonight and go to bed.

Yours affectionately,
ARR

Saturday, May 7th, 1864

News has been received this morning of an exchange of my paroled prisoners, so my cares will soon be diminished by the removal of all the troops at Camp Parole. I shall be greatly rejoiced thereat. I want you to come here as soon as possible. Please tell me how you want to come. If necessary, I will come after you, which I can readily do, I think. My camp and grounds are looking beautifully now and I want you to see them before the hot weather sets in. Nettie must come, too, and I will send up to Baltimore for Ettie.

I have nothing more for Mr Palmer⁴ and intend to give myself no trouble whatever respecting him. If he wants his pay, he can have it. One thing is certain - I am not going to be in a hurry to plunge into business again. I hope this war will be ended this year. If so, I intend to take 2 or 3 years to myself for study and mental culture. I am now preparing for a course of study by reviewing a number of my former studies. Of course, I have to do this fitfully and hastily, for my duties take up every moment of daylight and I can only study at night. It will come, however, right by and by.

So the Rev Thompson⁵ with a *p* is going to take unto himself a wife, is he? Joy be with him. I have but little faith in the gentleman and believe him to be thoroughly hypocritical. I have had no faith in him since he struck for higher wages and went to Cincinnati.

I am proud of Charlie Crittenden and hope to live to be useful to him. How glad & proud Aunt Delia must be of the boy.

This letter has been hurriedly and abruptly written and you must excuse it all, for I am greatly pressed for time, which is worth more than money to me now. Please give my love to all the family and, if you see Charlie Root, tell him that Captain Ernst⁶ is yet here awaiting orders, and as soon as he will receive them Charlie will receive his. I am afraid that you will find it difficult to decipher these hieroglyphics. Goodbye.

Affectionately yours,
Adrian R Root

NOTES:

(1) Chaplain Philos G Cook's wife, Clarissa Columbia Tottingham Cook.

(2) Col William H Hoffman, Commissary of Prisoners held this post from the Fall of 1861. He himself was a parolee from Texas. He had always been concerned over the prison economy and attained "fame" for establishing the POW compound on Johnson's Island in Lake Erie during '61.

(3) Maj Gen'l Ambrose Everett Burnside, USV, aged 40, was a West Pointer whose early war exploits had established a reputation for him regarding independent command. Relieved of command after Fredericksburg, for which failure he publicly admitted blame, he was appointed commander of the Army of the Ohio and succeeded in capturing Morgan's Raiders. Despite talk of sending him on another coastal expedition, Burnside led the 9th Corps through Grant's drive on Richmond only to again be relieved of command for mishandling troops in the Petersburg mine assault.

(4) Reference to Adrian's disgruntled pre-war business associate.

(5) Reverend Doctor Mathew LaRue P. Thompson was fifth pastor (1848-1860) of Buffalo's 1st Presbyterian Church (Root's congregation) but resigned "due to his wife's health." The church stood at Pearl & Main between 1827 and 1891.

(6) Captain John Fred Ernst, 94th NYV, aged 25, is awaiting his confirmation as Asst Quartermaster, USV.

*Adrian Rowe Root, Col. of 94th N.Y. Vol. Infantry, Commanded
Camp Parole, Annapolis, Md., 1863-64*

Division commander (Gen. Robinson) is awarded. we are not lucky to be here now. if we had have staid in the field we dont know how many of us poor Soldier Boys of the 94th might have been to day stretched out on some "Bloody Battle field." either killed or mortaly wounded.

The prospects of us staying here are fair. I think they will keep us here this summer with out doubt. Col. Raat says as long as the Boys do their duty well and behave well we shall stay here or in a better place

Darling I am so sleepy I cant see whether I am writing or not I did not sleep much last night the Boys made so much noise the mail does not go out untill 9 o'clock this evening and I cant think of any thing near now so I will go and take a little nap

Oh you look I got broke
William's things like John did
not think much though
the road the end a friend of his
wrote up to me from the 10th of June
giving the school further. But then John
(and) the school was taken later than
the good news of looking through
address from to that

Camp Parah M^d.
May 11th 1.64

My Darling, Sadie
According to agreement
I suppose I am bound to write
to you the first thing I do after
getting here. though I am half
tired to death and gived out
with my journey. But I arrived
here all safe this morning about
the time you was commencing
your school (9) I had no trouble
at all coming though I expected
that I should get here last
night But I did not get into
Baltimore in time for the train

So I went to the Soldiers Home and
staid all night and came down
on the 4 o'clock train this morning.
Every thing looks so ^{changed} ~~different~~ here the
trees are all leafed out and the
grass looks as though it was three
weeks a head of Catt. "Grass". And the
fruit trees are all in blossom I
guess there will be a good deal of
fruit this season.

Oh Sadie I have been so lonesome
ever since I left you that I have
hardly known what to do with
myself. I wonder if such has been
yours case? I presume it has although
you have much to ~~occupy~~ ^{occupy} your
self about now. But I know you
get time now in a while to think of
yours old. dont you Sadie? dont think he
is a bad lay though I think he
acted awfully naughty some of the

time while he was at home.
Sadie if I did do or say any thing ~~that~~
was offensive to you I hope you
will forgive me. will you Darling
you have never said or done any
thing that has been any offensive
to me at all.

I am so very tired and the
fog and it is so awful warm
here that I cant write as though
of any thing if I could. it is a
great deal warmer here than it is
in Abington. Even when Mrs
Haley lived there.

I expect they are having some
warm weather and warm work
in the Army of the Potomac
about these times. There has been
some awful hard fighting General
Seymour & wardsworth are killed
and many others wounded our old

Adrian Gray

Camp Parake Annapolis Md

Co. 9 94th Regt. N. Y. V.

Care of Col. A. R. Root

write as often to you
Cold as you can see
went you; and I
will do the same
till we all the day
and have you
like the school

Good night

Prician Look

from your sons

Dear Sadie

Sarah

Dear Sadie I have just
wake up and perhaps I look
same what by sleep. But I
am not half as sleepy
as I look. at least not so
sleepy as to keep me from
finishing this letter though
I do not feel much like writing
as you will see when you come
to read this that is if you can
read it. I was a gawdy to tell
you all the pitulas but now
I cant think of any thing more
pitulas that I ever think of so
now. I left Ft. Valley about
a clock and got into Elmira
at night had to wait there till
5 in the morning then we came
direct through to Batherson

got there at five in the evening just after the train had left for Annapolis.

Every time we past a school house on the way "Danis" would ask me if I saw the "School marris" Wasnt he hate ful. Sadie?

What do you think was the first ~~Miss~~ question the Boys asked us after we had got here and had shook hands all round: can you quilt?

I will tell you how fear you went. (Did you get married) while you was at home?

And the furnish ment they had for the man that did get married was a Blanket Coat Martial. So I escaped wasnt I lucky? Some of them had

to take the Carst Martial though. The Carst Martial they got was not so plain as the one I had before Cal. E. Flint.

Well Darling I shall have to close and take this to the office. I hope you will get it this week though there is nothing in it of any consequence I dont know as I could write any thing of a "Dimeyance" if I should try.

But I am in an awful hurry. I got your letter I dont see how I can await till it comes.

Give my respects to "Ore" and your good Sister "Minnie" and tell them I never thought to tell them to write to me but if they will I will answer it as soon as I can as soon as

May 14th 1864

We shall leave here
this afternoon at four
o'clock so the Major told
me just now

But we dont know where
we shall go yet
to the front I guess
has we are drawing food
tools and raw hide shoes
and Copper

Will know if we
go to the front I
shall take care of my
self and not get
shaded
Admiral

Camp Parake

May 16th 1864

Dear Mother

I will just write
you a short line to let
you know where I am and what
I am about

We have got orders
to leave here at a mo-
ments notice. So we are
all packed up and waiting
for the "Ward March" But
the order will be retained
whether we shall go or not
for sure. But very likely
we shall go soon when
We dont know that either

But I think we shall
go to the front ~~again~~

It is all right if we do
go the boys feel ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~the~~
Want we make them ~~the~~
~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~
get them.

I sent ~~from~~
my satchel to ~~my~~ ^{by} ~~the~~ ~~the~~
has got a pair of pants and
a hat and a little satchel
then and a handle of
spits You can tell what
things belong to me
Mr Braath can pay you
half what it costs when
he comes for the things
tell mate I sent that
picture I was telling ~~me~~
a lund. the day

Will I ever think of
any thing more now
But as soon as I get
a message from ~~the~~ ~~the~~
go) I will write.

I don't worry ~~about~~
me now because I am
a gaining person here
you know I know my
thing a little every time
I don't think we shall
get any pay now in
a luvy while may be

You need not write
until you hear from
me again

as ever Adrian

5-16-64

Monday Evening 16th

Well I think we have not
got a way yet. We have got
all ready and waiting for orders
we may get them to morrow
and we may not go in a
week and I dont know as
there is any thing sure of
our going at all. But quite
likely you shall hear here
soon or at least a part of
the Regt. those that have
been listed and have not
been here yet are not
going. They are going to
stay here. And a squad
went home this morning
they are to report here when
their furloughs are out.

I dont much think we
shall go to the front to
stay this long. Because
if we see the whole Regt
would go. I should think

I can tell what I can quite
we are a going to do. I think
we are going to guard Pikes
Penner's again where.

But go for what we may
we are all rough lough
and ready for any thing
and any place they are
a mind to put us

Not many Comrad's in
the 44th N. Y. V. R. Regt.
they say things are a
going now I almost
am in hope we will go
into the field

"Grant is a Brick"

Well I want write my
now to night I will write
and see what the prospects
of going are in the Morn
to Good Night

Adm.

You will has from
me a gain's Dear if I
have any chance to
write

Adm

#76
Camp near base of
Alexandria Va
Aug 16th 1864

Father we are getting our
pay to day and I shall
send home to you some
I cant tell how much
by express this after noon
we are drawing tents to day
and other things for the
field. I think we shall
stay here a few
days get rentil we are
organized into "Regiments"
and "Divisions" then we
shall go some where
into some army we
cant tell when yet.

We are all feeling better
We think we are all
sawnd for "Grant"

We have got a new stand
of Cullars With all the

But the regt. have
never been in it is 11
I think I have not com-
muted the names yet.

All our are all Whoga
for has whora, and
sub cuiss has reho cuiss

And I want write you
more till I get my name
then I will tell you how
much I shall send

I have Expressed to Add.
Alex.

Gray Co. Dallas
now I must go on
guard Add.

Mr. Childs
send 25 dollars in the pack-
age with mine you can
send it to Mrs. Childs and
the rail pay you the Express
age of 25 dollars

1000 16
 421 4
 505 8
 18 2
 487 16
 1500 1
 515 8
 377 12
 80 16
 267 4
 12 4
 279 150
 156 54
 120 80
 159 230
 175 1
 182 4
 221 8
 62 187

I don't believe you will want me
 to write an extra inch or
 two. I don't know but I
 am. But Darling I must do
 something to keep me from
 being "home sick". As I will
 write to you and if you can't
 get time nor patients to read
 it you can burn it up or do
 put it where no one else can
 find it. But I don't think
 there is any danger of any
 one reading it if they do
 get hold of it. it is such
 poor writing.
 Well Sarah
 I think that a week from now
 you will find me some
 where in the Army of the
 North killed in a fight & don't

May 17th 1864
 Sarah you will think that I
 am in a terrible "distress" to write
 to you. and I don't know but I
 am. But Darling I must do
 something to keep me from
 being "home sick". As I will
 write to you and if you can't
 get time nor patients to read
 it you can burn it up or do
 put it where no one else can
 find it. But I don't think
 there is any danger of any
 one reading it if they do
 get hold of it. it is such
 poor writing.
 Well Sarah
 I think that a week from now
 you will find me some
 where in the Army of the
 North killed in a fight & don't

Patomac we are going in
into the field soon. We was
presented with a new stand
of Cullass this evening on
parade they are the nicest
cullass I ever saw they seem
like those used in the
Regular Army But I never
saw any that looked as
good as ours it bears the
name of the 94th N. Y. Veteran
Regt. with all the Badges that
we have ever been engaged
in that is ten. I have been
in seven of them.

Sarah I shall have to hurry
and finish this for we leave
here at three o'clock to morrow
morning they say we are a
going to join "Cook's" or
Brigade But I dont know
where that is But it is

in the Army of the
Potomac soon when I
expect I am in hope I shall get
a letter from you before I
leave here But I dont much
expect to see shall go before
the mail comes in the
morning. But if you have
written I shall get it some
time.

Excuse me Sarah for
writing this awful poor letter
and before I had got any from
you But I am so lonesome
I have got to write to some
one and you are the only
one I want to write to But
my own folks, Mother and
Brother. &c

I will write again
as soon as I get your letter.

No good night Darling
from your Aff. Soldier

Chaplain Philos G Cook, 94th NYV

Item appeared in The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser for May 24 of 1864 - page 3, column 1

Alexandria, Virginia

May 18th, 1864

Editors of The Commercial,

Four months ago, the 94th Regiment of New York Volunteers were ordered from the front of the Army of the Potomac to Camp Parole, Annapolis, Maryland, for the purpose of doing "guard duty, recruitment, and reorganization." The first of those duties has been faithfully performed to the entire satisfaction, I believe, of all concerned. The other two have been attended to as far as circumstances would permit.^a In the meantime, the men here enjoyed advantages for intellectual culture and religious worship, the former in connection with classes organized in the common branches of education, and the latter in religious services regularly held and conducted in a pleasant and commodious chapel not only on the Sabbath but, for several weeks, every evening. Our religious services had been largely attended and often deeply interesting. One of the results has been the organization of an association for the promotion of their own and their fellow soldiers' moral and religious interests. God bless The Young Men's Religious Association of the 94th Reg't! Pray for it, you who have to pray for the soldier.

We have felt it a privilege, after the rough times we have had in two years' campaigning in "Old Virginia," to enjoy this respite from the severer service of the field. Regarding the position at Camp Parole as a comparatively "soft thing," we have nevertheless held ourselves ready and desirous to return to the field whenever the government should need our services more elsewhere. As an evidence of this feeling on the part of our commanding officer, Colonel Adrian R Root, I may mention that when the Burnside expedition^b was organizing near us, as we supposed for some service south, the Colonel waited on Gen'l Burnside and signified his willingness to lead his regiment into the field again. The General expressed strong desire to secure his services and tendered him the command of a brigade provided the War Department would consent to the transfer. But when Gen'l Burnside applied to Secretary Stanton and General Halleck for the release of Colonel Root from his present position, they promptly refused to comply and said that the Colonel was "the right man in the right place" and could not be spared from Annapolis. On this being made known to the regiment it was naturally supposed that we would be retained in the Camp during the summer, but in this it seems we were mistaken. For, while the government has not receded from their position as to Colonel Root, they have ordered the regiment to report to Brigadier General Lockwood^c at a rendezvous in Alexandria. This order came on Monday. We arrived here this evening and found most excellent accomodations for the

night at the Soldier's Rest - one of the very best institutions of its kind in the country. The regiment is under the immediate command of Lieutenant Colonel Sam'l A Moffett. It is understood that we are to be brigaded with the 3rd Delaware, The Purnell Legion, and others whose names I have not learned, under the command of Brig Gen'l Lockwood. Our destination is, of course, not known to us, but we are probably to join the Army of the Potomac. We shall esteem it a privilege and an honor to participate with them or any other portion of the army in the present mighty - and we trust to be successful - struggle to put down the rebellion and end this cruel war. God help us!

Yours respectfully,
PG Cook
Chaplain, 94th NY

PS - Propose to keep you informed of our movements as far as practicable and consistent with propriety.

NOTES:

- a Between 12/3/1863 and 5/4/1864, the 94th NYV was assigned to the Military District of Annapolis, VIII Corps, Middle Department.
- b Burnside's IX Corps left Knoxville on March 17 of '64 and went to Annapolis for reorganization & refitting aimed at a Spring campaign. The Corps received five cavalry regiments, twelve infantry regiments, and five batteries. See Adrian Root's letters of April 7 and May 6 in 1864.
- c Brig Gen'l Henry Hayes Lockwood, USV was 50 years of age by this time and had gained some fame through his participation in Gettysburg's fighting. From December of '63 through April of '64, he commanded the VIII Corps and Middle-Department. Lockwood graduated from West Point during 1836 but eventually landed in the Naval Academy teaching mathematics. Commissioned in the army due to his training, Lockwood returned the Navy after the Civil War.

Aug 19th

It has got to be raining
and we have not left yet.
We shant get a very much a
day as two we have got
to draw tents Camp Equipage
Teams &c. We have got
to be put out for the
field. We belong to
Gen. "Locksroads" Brigade
But I dont know what
Division or Corps.

I Expended \$60.00
I drew 40. But I did not
know but I should
want to use a little
before we left here but
if I dont I shall send
the dollar home in a
little sum of these days

Mr Childs wanted to
send \$25.00 he thought
it would not cost
much more to send a
good deal than it would
to send a little. You
must make Mr Childs
pay all it is worth
as does dont let her have
the money.

You can pay the
expense of what
money I send her
and you must keep
track of it and I
will make it all right
at the end of 3 years
as sooner settled

I saw Dan Reed
yesterday as we came
through Washington
But I had no time to
speak to him. I guess
he did not see me
if he did he did not
know me. I called
"Daree" at home. But
I know he did not
know me.

W. M. J. O.
Gint. Did not see
letter to Washington
D.C.
I write a gain if you
have been ~~seen~~

A. C. C.

Red Plain Landing Va.

Aug 28th / 64

Dear Mother

As every thing is
lovely and the grade hangs high
and the old "Chaplain" says there
is no order for us to march
I will write a few lines so that
you will know where I am.

We left Alexandria yesterday morning
at 6 o'clock and landed here at
6 last night. I suppose you are
expecting us to join the army of the
Potomac. They say when we get
out in front we shall be
ordered to send letters I don't
know whether it is so or not
The Chaplain left a man
back to Camp Perdue to bring up

The Mail that came thru and
he has not come yet so I have
not had a word from home as
any other letter since I left home
you must excuse me for writing
with a bit pencil But I have
not got any ink I am not going
to carry any more lead than
I can possibly get a long with
out I wish I had sent ~~sent~~ sent
home more in that sack
than I did I have got my
old ones cut a pair of pants
and a shirt that I shant
carry any farther than here
I wish I had sent them home
But I did not know where
an one was going and thought
I might need them.

There is a good many soldiers
here now and lots of sick and
wounded coming in all the time

from the front And a lot of
Prisoners are down to landing
loaded on transports they hooked
and yelled when we came
in And called us "Damn sons
of a Bitchy Bitch" and all the
damned names they could think
of I had a good swing to
lead my gun and give
them a shot. (The General says)

I hope I shall get a letter to day
for I am anxious to know if you
have heard from Mastron since
I came away

I wrote to Mastron
yesterday and sent 5 dollars
to him in the letter.

That is all the news I can
think of this time
as soon as I can
I will write again
Edna

for I know there is a lot of them
I don't know I could come and see
you to night. as I did two weeks ago
to night. But I am a friend it will be
a long time before I shall see you
again. But if I cant see you
Darling I shall think of you often
for there is no one living that I think
half so much of as I do of you
But you know that all ready so there
is no use of me telling you of it

With Darling I shall have to
close for the Chaplain is here after
the mail came so I will tell
you good Bye and here is a kiss
for you Dear

Write soon to yours

Ada

Address Washington D.C.

I had to cut the short for
the Chaplain is all ready to
go now

Good Bye Darling

I will write you as soon
as I can.

Ada

Bell Plain landing Va.

May 22nd / 64

Dear Sarah

You will excuse me
for writing to you so often
and horrid your mind with
my nonsense. While you ^{are}
so busily engaged with your
school. But as I didnt know
when I could get an other chance
to write I thought I would improve
the present opportunity.

I have not got any
letters from you yet as the
man that was left back to the
camp has to bring up the
mail has not come up yet

But we expect him here to day
They say when we get out
in front that we ~~shant~~ shant
be alarmed to send any more
letters I dont know whether it
is true or not.

^{Last} We left Camp Parole
Wednesday morning and got to
Alexandria the same night
we staid there ever since till
yesterday morning. We got our
pay the 18th and I saw an Guard
the same day but never the
less I thought of that what you
wrot in my Back and a good
deal more. God now I will
tell the truth. I never was so
home sick in all my life as
I ~~was~~ have been for the last
two weeks. But I am getting over
it now I dont believe I
ever want an other parolough
If I ever come home again

I want to stay there. Oh. I do wish
I could get a letter from you. I
cant tell what to write a line first
then is so much that I might
tell you though a good deal of it
would not interest you much.
The weather is every ~~warmer~~ warm here
now which makes it every disagree-
ble marching though I stand
it better than the most of
the Boys. I dont carry any
more load than I ever possibly
got a long with out. But the
45 rounds of ammunition is the
heaviest thing just now. But
I suppose they will make us
carry 45 or 100. when we get
out where the "gabneys" are

I cant get in any pants when
I am out there the sun then
is in through the tent and
Bathes me so I cant help write
so you must excuse all the mistakes

From the 94th Regiment

On the march for Richmond
Bowling Green, Virginia
May 25, 1864

Messrs Editors: I informed you a few days since that the 94th New York was ordered to join the Army of the Potomac. We left Alexandria on Saturday and spent the following Sabbath at Belle Plain; left the latter place on Monday afternoon at 3 1/2 o'clock; bivouacked that night opposite Fredericksburg; crossed the Rappahannock on pontoons the following - yesterday - morning; passed through the city without stopping, and were soon upon the Bowling Green Road. We continued our march to Caroline Church, some ten miles, where it was found expedient to remain all night on account of the great number of men who had suffered severely from the effects of the heat, having only one ambulance and no transportation wagons. It is something rather novel to see five regiments on the march, and that through an enemy's country, without any transportation for baggage or invalids. It was found impossible to obtain teams at Belle Plain and our general felt bound to leave when he did, without waiting to receive them from Washington. This is rather hard on officers; many left, and will probably lose, most of their baggage. We arrived here at 11 o'clock, having made a fine march with very little straggling.

It seems almost incredible that five small regiments of Union troops should be able to march from Fredericksburg to Bowling Green without seeing or hearing of a single squad of the enemy. Not a dog barked at us; indeed, we scarcely saw a live man, and very few women or children. One very fine dwelling near where we stayed was visited by our boys. They found it splendidly furnished, but no living being to smile or frown upon them. The Bowling Green people, it is said, were very much frightened by our arrival, but I presume they will not be much harmed by our boys.

We move on immediately and hope to overtake the army tonight or tomorrow, though General Grant seems to be driving the rebels about as far as we can march. It is supposed that there will be a hard fight at Hanover Court House, and no more after that till we arrive before the defences of Richmond. Officers and men are in good spirits.

As I write, long trains of ambulances and wagons filled with wounded are passing down to Port Royal.

Yours, etc.
PG Cook
Chaplain, 94th NYV

We are in a hard a days march of when they are fighting we could hear canading all day yesterday and have heard a little today but not much. a large train of wagons came in yesterday looked quite surrounded they say we are whipping them hard. When our fellows make a charge on them they want stand more than one or two hallos before they will brake and run "yaghts they have heard the the 74th are coming" We dont belong to any Corps

yet we are in you dont know what we shant get any mail till we are sent into some Corps and I dont know when that will be. we can get a chance over in a while to send letter out But it is hard getting any to us would our are paired to some Corps. then our shall get our regular mail. and I shall be glad if it too fast I want to hear from Sadies over in a while. I have not heard from her yet since I left. I wouldnt give if I could hear from Sadies twice in a while I got a letter from her last Sunday and it was more than a go it will be longer than off I shall hear from you again. But I shall make my chance I can get to send a letter out if I dont hear from you in six months and if you get tired and sick of so many letters you can burn them up and not read them.

When you write direct your letter to Washington as you used to do in our times in the field before Darling I shall have to stop and go and make me some coffee for it in what dinner time. I wish you remember that ring you had I put that on to my little finger the other day and I cant get it off. it slipped over the joint and it want slip back again so I shall have to wait until it slips I shall wait until it slips I shall wait until it slips I shall wait until it slips

Dear my love I am not yet in
I have not yet got into the
I have not yet got into the
I have not yet got into the
I have not yet got into the

Dear Willard Station the
May 26th 1864

Dearest Sarah
This is the fifth
letter that I have written to you since
I came from home I dont know but
you will get tired of so much of my
repeated nonsense but if you get tired
of it you need not read ^{the letter.} them. But I
presume you would like to know where
I am at this time so I will write a short
letter and give you a brief history of the
past three or four days.

We left Bell Plain landing
last Sunday night at 4 o'clock and
went to Fredricksburg that night
got there a hour 9 in the evening

Dear my love I am not yet in
I have not yet got into the
I have not yet got into the
I have not yet got into the
I have not yet got into the

we staid there all night. Then in the morning we crossed the river and marched along down on the south side most the whole length of the old battle field and I went to the same place where I was wounded. But it didnt look much as it did the day of the battle but still it looks natural excepting the house that we used for a Hospital was burned and the grass was growing up year when ^{it was} all hair and covered with dead men the day of the fight. So there is a great difference in the looks of it now and the looks of it then.

It was an awful warm day that day we crossed the old field and we marched a good ways 12 or 14 miles I should think and it was so warm that some of the boys was sun struck and several died on the road. I stood it first rate I took all the advantage of the roads that I could when I could get out a cross and saw a mile or half a mile I dare it

I am not a going to kill my self. Warbling if the Rebs kill me that's enough I shant kill myself ^{about 2 o'clock}

Will we staid that day and staid all night our Regt went over spiked and it rained all the fore part of the night. I thought of "Camp Parole" as much as I ever thought of Camp Parole that night as our staid there in the rain. I thought of the difference between the Picketing then and the Picketing that I done while I was in "Skin town" but little more than two weeks from then. "a good deal of difference Sadie."

We left there at 4 o'clock in the morning and went to Balingreen a little town about as large as "pitt". We took dinner there staid there till ^{then} 6 o'clock then we came to Milford station got there at five rode there a short time then came here got here about dark last night and we shall probably leave here some time this evening when it gets cool

as soon as we get into a Co's
so upon the outside you may write
if you are a comind to.

Mr Childs is sick we left him as
he left us at Fredericks Burg as there
was the last one some of him Baeth
and Penn are here and well
only Baeth is almost dead for a
Cheny of tobacco I am glad I dont
know.

Will I dont know as
there is any more news to write
this time

I would be glad if I
could hear from Manton
I suppose he is down with
Buller I saw some of the 10th
Company yesterday and they told
me the 9 was with Buller

That's all I guess

I am well tough as a Buck
stand marching the best of
any man in the Company
I dont lie about it either
for I do.

Sold. J. J.

I dont suppose you
will see me before I
get off of this letter

P. 9475 Regt

May 25th 1864. Near Willard Station Va
Dear Mother. As there is a chance for
us to send a letter I will write a short
one and send it to you for I suppose
you are wanting to hear from me
and know how we are getting along
on our march ^{on} towards to Richmond

We left Bell Plain Landing at land
ing night at 4 o'clock and went to
Fredericks Burg that night got there
about 9 in the evening then we
started early in the morning for
then and crossed the River Marsden
along down on the South side
crossed over the old Battle Field.
Some the place where I was wound
ed and where our Brigade fought
it doesnt look much as it did
that day though the old dikes
and some old road is there

and the house we used for a
Hospital is all burned down.

Well we went about 10 or 12
miles that day it was very warm
lots of the Boys saw Sun struck
and some died on the road.

Finally we stopped and staid for
the night and Regt. had to go on
Picket it rained and thundered &
lightened like "Sam Hill" all the
fore part of the night. But we
staid it like "Brook's" thought of
Camp Parde once in a while "~~the~~
though" But still to be on Picket
sounded kind a natural again.

We got here last night - it
dark We could hear Cannadoing
all day yesterday and they are
a pounding a way off in front
now a little but our cant has it
been away Plain. it is raining a
little and I guess they are taking
it easy to day

We are in a lant a days march from
the fighting But I dont know whether
they will put us right in or not
Some talk that we are going to
ground a suply train I dont know
what we will do as I dont know as
it makes much odds. We are as good
fighters as they have got in the
Army. (So we are)

I dont know whether we
are Brigaded yet - as yet we are
in a Brigade under Gen Hookwood
But whether we shall stay there or
not I cant tell we may go back to
our Old Brigade again.

I cant get any letters from you
until we get into some Corps and
regularly organized into some
Briged and Division. and that
may be some time yet. I have not
heard from you yet. and I dont
know whether you need writ or not
But if you do write I can get it

New Pamunkey River Pa
May 29th 1864

Dear Mother we are once more in
the field and in hearing of Meade's firing
We crossed the Pamunkey River this morning
at 10 o'clock and we have come about 3
miles since we crossed the River We shall
probably by to morning morning have a
chance at some of the "jakes" though
we may not We are back in the
same Division ~~of~~ that we used to
belong to though not in the same
Brigade I dont know what Brigade
we do belong to yet.

I suppose Stanton is here
some where the whole Cavalry Corps
is around here. I dont know as
I shall get a chance to send thru Post

I will visit it and give it to the
Chaplain may be he will get a chance
to send it some time.

Now Mattus dont worry
about me I am all right it is
no more for me to fight the Rebs
than lots of others Boys.

I have not heard from home
yet But I guess my Ma I shall
soon We are sure that we shall
drive the Rebs. they dont like the
our "Meas" yanks fight this
Summer.

that is all this time
I will take care of my self
the best I can and with a
gain soon

Good by
From Add

a fight and last three weeks
from that day. did you think
see Will Sabin I shall have
to stop please excuse me for
writing with a pencil for I
have no ink and must write
with a pencil or not write at all

Don't worry about me Darling
I will be a good Boy and if
you are better for the last time
and never to meet again here
in this world let us try to
meet in a better world
you must excuse me
Darling now for I shall have
to stop good Bye Good Sabin
write to me soon

Adrian Washington D.C.
99th

ever yours Adrian

For a check from Henry Cunningham
our cars left all to quit in
our front and our eyesight

Behind Best Work in front of
the Rebs. May 31st 1864

Darling Sarah

I wish you a better
one day last week I have written
four or five since I come from here
I have had but one from you for you
have had no mail since we left
Camp Pick out over I will tell you
what I have been up to since we
went at this time. We crossed the
"Pomunby" River day before yesterday
came about 2 miles South of the
River then we halted and staid
all night. Then in the morning
we got ready to march was much
marching orders till about noon

we could hear them shouting about
a mile and a half a head of us
But we did not think we should
have a fight that day. But
our march our march marched
up and was drawn up in the
about 2 o'clock in the afternoon
the fight commenced shortly after
and lasted till dark when the
Rebs fell back and gave it up
as a bad job. There were ~~many~~
of our Regt killed ~~or wounded~~
There was too men wounded
the first Division of our Corps
lost many. We killed a good
many Johnny's. Our Regt fought
behind Best marks so the
Rebs had no chance to hurt
any of us. Their Infantry fire
was very light on us. But
their Artillery made us lay
at least to our Best marks

We are in the Fifth Corps
Second Division First Brigade
they have been fighting up
an ours right all day to day
and we can hear ~~fighting~~
down on our left flank
I guess Mr. Caldwell has commenced
fighting them. We may
show it here before its mor-
row night. But I guess we
are good for them. we
think so any way.

Well Darling I cant visit
any more this time I dont
know as I can visit this
But if I can see the Chaplain
I will give it to him and
he can send it to our Corps
post master. I do wish I
could get a letter from you
I dont think that day I left
you Dear that I should have

Behind Post works near the
Pamunkey River about 10 miles from
Richmond May 31st 1664

We erected the Pamunkey ~~post~~
day before yesterday about 10 o'clock
and waited till yesterday at about 2 P.M.
when our comers here and formed
a line just in rear of our Skirmish
ers and went to throwing up Post
works we got them down about 4
o'clock and about 5 they commen
ced shelling us and the Skirmish
ers commenced firing pretty sharp
But our Batteries soon shut them
up the Rebels made 2 charges on
our right But our men drove
them back each time. The report
is that the Rebel "Gen Esley" was
killed our men still hold
the field But they have
been fighting up on our
right all day to day We are

on the left, there has not
been any fighting here since
last ~~last~~ night. We are in
the First-Brigade Second
Division Fifth Corps Gen.
Lee's command. The Divis-
ion and Col. Leis of the 90
Penn. Commands our Brigade.
We are laying here expecting
to remain my moment &
they are still pushing a way
up on our right. Perhaps
they will get around here
by night but we are ~~sure~~
enough for them we are
in good fortifications and
have got lots of artillery.

This is all I can write this
time I thought I would
write a few lines so that you
may know when I am
I will write again soon. Adieu

The old Chaplain is back in the
rear But I have got a chance to
send this book to him it may
be a long time before you get
it. it is now on a dock
nothing has been done here
to day But they are still fighting
up on the right

Will tell "Liam" not to
Worry about our you will
soon have Richmond and
then we will all be home

a gain

Walter give my respects
to the "School man" or "genius"
I little thought that Monday
I left home that in just
3 weeks from that day I
should be in 10 miles of
Richmond and in a fight
too.

Will no man this time

I have not heard from
Sam yet - office out yet our mail

Chaplain Philos G Cook, 94th NYV

Item in The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser for June 14 of 1864 - page 4, column 1

We are permitted to make the following extracts from a letter written by Chaplain Cook of the 94th Reg't to a friend in this city. It will be read with interest by the friends of the Chaplain and of the boys in the 94th, though containing little in the way of news:

Camp of the 94th NYV in the battlefield,
near Mechanicsville
June 3rd, 1864 *

It makes one feel sad to contemplate the scenes and operations of war at a distance and through "the newspapers," but the actual witness and experience are far more impressive. Take for example my experience yesterday and today. Though I can by no means give you in words an adequate idea or description of what has passed before my vision or the sensations of my heart, nevertheless let me try to give you something of an idea of what has been going on around me. This is Friday; on Wednesday, June 1st, there was a tremendous fight all along our lines. The Second Corps (Hancock's) on the left, the Ninth Corps (Burnside's) next, the Fifth (Warren's) our Corps next, and the Sixth on the extreme left were all engaged with both artillery and infantry at a tremendous rate; especially from about 3 o'clock to 9 or 10 pm. Such cannonading and musketry on so extended a line - probably 6 or 8 miles - are rarely heard and right severely did they punish the enemy. And yet on several points along the line "Johnnie" showed a bold and defiant spirit and was a match for the "Yankees," though generally the Union boys more than held their ground and took a large number of prisoners.

This was a prelude to a change in the position of the Corps. The Second marched by us towards the left in the morning, and in the afternoon the greater portion of the Fifth moved towards the left, and Burnside made his appearance to occupy the vacancy made by the removal of a portion of the Fifth. Just as he was marching into position, a tremendous rainstorm came up to catch the Chaplain and his retinue of non-combatants in a somewhat exposed condition. It occurred to me while the shower was upon us that it would be just like the "Johnnies" to attack us during or immediately after it; and, sure enough, the rain had scarcely ceased before we heard sharp firing and yelling which indicated that the rebs were charging upon our boys. The volleys increased in intensity and rapidity; troops and batteries were got into line of battle and positioned as fast as possible. For two or three hours the battle raged within an area of about a half-mile square with a great vigor and fury. The attack was on our right flank which had been left exposed (at least so it is said,) by the tardy movements of some division that was to have taken the place of those who had been withdrawn.

The line of battle seemed almost in a circle or in the three sides of a square. The shells came in very "freely and carelessly" -making it very difficult to find a place of safety. The doctors, chaplains and their attendants, drummers, and servants of officers usually on such occasions go to the rear for safety but in this instance it was difficult to tell where the rear was. First we went into a thick forest and lay down behind trees at the foot of a slope -the shells going mostly a few rods beyond us. Seeing the brigade passing out of the woods towards the principal scene of conflict, we followed a short distance and then turned into the woods. By and by, we change again a half-mile -then conclude to go to regiment. It is now dark and raining and we know not the exact position of the regiment -find it a mile into and through a piece of wood in an open field -in line of battle -no tents -no fires, or few -no candles. In a few moments, our cook comes up with some supplies -a welcome visitor. Here in the mud and in the rain and dark we squat and partake of our "hasty plate of soup" -and never was a plate of hot soup more acceptable to us. This done, "Ike" (cook,) George (bugler,) and the Chaplain go to the rear with the horses -start a fire and sit around a while to dry and make ourselves comfortable. By and by, a messenger arrives to say that the regiment is liable to move off at any moment and that we must go nearer to them. We obey, reluctantly leaving our comfortable fire. We stop under a large tree, tie our horses near us, and wait an hour or so for further orders -then top down upon the ground, not under, but on a tent, and seek rest. Poor success; get up at one and go down to that fire we had seen burning so cheerfully among the tents of a battery.

After getting partially dry, return to tree - can't find my rubber blanket -must have a light -went to fire again to light a candle -while stooping to do so, a sharpshooter sends a bullet within a foot or two of my head -before I get back to tree, another whizzes by -showing that the fire draws attention of this sort; -all night the skirmishers are at work and every now & then a spent bullet falls nearby or another whizzes over our heads! We rise before it is fairly light and hasten to the rear -find our former position -get and eat breakfast in a drizzling rain -and then seek a place of greater safety; as the balls have commenced passing or falling by us -a short distance off, find what seems to be a desirable position. Hardly get settled before the awful shells begin to come and fall near us; we get behind a tree and lie as close to the ground as possible for safety; -these unwelcome messengers keep coming for an hour -then there is a lull -thus passes the afternoon. This pm, three or four have gone over us -most of the day there has been cannonading and musketry at intervals. Meantime, I have visited the wounded in a field over yonder, brought there to be tended temporarily -found only one of my regiment -having his leg so badly wounded that amputation will be necessary; -said he was hungry -gave him hard bread and water -returned to my headquarters and got some refreshments for the poor fellow -went back and stayed with him the

balance of the day. The rebs choose the last of the evening for their hard fighting, and we'll soon be hotly engaged.

Our regiment has not as yet been very much exposed; but they are in a position now which will be very likely to bring them into a general engagement and make it almost certain that more or less will be wounded or killed. I cannot bear to think of their being injured in this way but such is war and such will doubtless be their fate. This is the fifth day since we came up with the army, or rather, since we have participated in the series of battles which have been fought in this campaign. Of our general success and the general results, the papers will give you more information than I can. In fact, those who are participating in the struggle are often not in the most favorable position to acquire or impart general views; the officials and general reporters are the persons to do that. But it is obvious that the Army of the Potomac is battling valiantly and successfully; and that we soon shall be knocking loudly for admittance at the doors of Richmond there can be no doubt. Indeed, our advance can hardly be more than five miles from Richmond today. Our hospitals, etc, will all be moved forward three miles today. We hope and expect that Richmond will be ours on or before the Fourth of July. Yes, it is often said by the officers around me: "We must eat ice cream in Richmond on the Fourth of July." But Alas! How many who now talk of these glorious consummations will offer their lives as a sacrifice for the purchase.

It is refreshing to see the spirit which animates many of these noble fellows now exposing life and limb for their country. Yesterday, as I was passing a young soldier, I said "How about hardtack; got a supply?" "Oh yes, plenty." "How do you stand these hard marches and battles?" "First rate." "Have you re-enlisted?" "Oh, yes. This is a big thing and I like it!"

To a venerable-looking old man who was at work near here making corduroy roads I gave some hard bread, he being out; he thanked me. I replied that I felt thankful to him for being willing to suffer so much for his country. He said he did it cheerfully and wished he could do more. God bless him and all of the kindred spirit! How costly and precious is liberty!

It is now 5:30 pm; very few guns have been fired for the last two hours - what is the cause; what the "Johnnies" are up to - whether retreating or manuvering to get some advantage we cannot tell, but probably the latter. I would it might be otherwise but our boys will be enough for them under God, do what they may.

NOTES:

a Chaplain Cook's comments refer to his experiences during June & June 2 at the outset of Cold Harbor's twelve days; the 94th NYV was in Col Lyle's brigade, Lockwood's Division, Fifth Corps. Between May 31 and June 12 of 1864, the 94th lost 49 members either killed, wounded, or missing. Lieutenant Colonel Moffett commanded the regiment. On June 6, Lyle's brigade became the first brigade of Crawford's third division in the Fifth Corps.

b The bloody "Forty Days" which it took Grant to reach Richmond were almost finished. May 30 saw the four corps of the Army of the Potomac were reinforced by elements of Ben Butler's Army of the James at White House Landing on the Pamunkey River; as this force renewed its southerly march it encountered increasing resistance in the vicinity of Totopotomoy Creek. As soon as Grant realized how strong Lee's positions were, he began planning a tactical shift around the Confederate right flank.

Although the leading elements of Wright's corps began arriving at Cold Harbor in the morning of June 1, delays experienced by Wright and Smith put off a planned attack until 6 that evening. By then the rebels had had sufficient time to establish a line of entrenchments. During the ensuing encounter, the VI & XVIII Corps managed to capture the enemy's forward line of works; despite stiff resistance and the loss of 2,000 men, the two corps pushed ahead westward roughly a half mile. A June 2 assault was planned in order to capitalize upon the gains of June 1 but required night movements caused so many delays that the assault was postponed until 4:30 a.m., June 3.

c The V and IX Corps did not participate in the June 3 because they guarded the Union right. At dawn on June 3, however, 50,000 men from the II, VI, and XVIII Corps began an attack which would earn for Grant the nickname "butcher." All three corps were pinned down within an hour and had sustained between 5,600 and 7,000 casualties.

Chaplain's Quarters,
94th N.Y. Vols.,
Near Petersburg, Va.
June 27th, 1864.

Erax Fay, Esq.,

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 23rd inst came to hand this morning. It grieves me to say that I find Adrian Fay's name among those captured or supposed to be, on the 3rd inst, while on the skirmish line. It somehow happened that a portion of the skirmish line got in advance of the rest, and consequently did not get notice of the withdrawal or change of the picket, and were consequently captured. A brave fellow volunteered to go out and notify these advanced outposts that it was time to fall back, and if possible save them. But on arriving on the ground, he found the Rebel pickets so near that it was impossible to communicate with our men. Indeed, this man came near being captured himself. A Reb. picket or skirmisher dressed in our uniform, got very near him and ordered him to surrender, but our man chose to take his chances for life by running. The Reb. fired, and inflicted a very slight wound. Our man had no arms with him, but fortunately escaped unharmed.

In all we have lost 28 men by capture since the 30th of May. On the 6th, 20 or 22 were lost in this way. Nothing of the kind that has happened in the Regt. has grieved me so much as the loss of so many brave fellows by capture, and yet this may be the means of saving their lives. Thousands will be shot and die while they are in captivity. I am inclined to think that the Rebels will treat their prisoners better than heretofore.

You have my cordial sympathy in this trial to your feelings, and my prayer is that God may sustain and comfort your son, and bring him safely through all his trials and sufferings while in captivity. Verily this is a cruel war, may God hasten the time when we may have an honorable peace.

Yours very truly,

P. C. Cook,

Chaplain, 94th N.Y. Vols.

Chaplain's Quarters,
94th N.Y. Vols.,
Near Petersburg, Va.
June 27th, 1864.

Mr. Fay, Esq.,

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In all, we have lost 28 men by capture since the 30th of May. On the 6th, 20 or 22 were lost this way. Nothing that has happened in the Regt. has grieved me so much as the loss of so many brave fellows by capture, and yet this may be the means of saving their lives. Thousands will be shot and die in captivity. I am inclined to think that the Rebels will treat their prisoners better than heretofor.

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Yours very truly,

P. G. Cook.

Chaplain, 94th N.Y. Vols.

them to be in these darned
old breast works up to the
front of man cant look
but what some sharp
shooter will peg away at him
and then about every night
we can hear their charging
some place near the muskets
roar all night & our glad
to our most an infantry man
when we fight it is done in a
hurry & I dont know some
times & think we never can
whip the reds and then again
we hear some good news then
we think it will not last
long we dont get much
news lately we cant get papers
every time we want them
I got the Freeman Ass sent
me but there want no news
in it after all it does us
good to get any thing from
home the boys are getting lots
of things from home now
by mail they get hats shirts
and most every thing that can
be done up in a mail bundle

Camp Near Lighthouse point
July 28th 1864

Dear Mother

I received your
letter last night and was
glad to hear from you
I am getting tough at a bear
agon I am rather poor I
dont think you would
hardely know me if you
could should see me
I have quit using tobacco
I dont care a snap for it
I could get plenty if
I wanted almost every barn
is full of it but I
dont like it to chew
I smoke some times
you wanted to know if
we dont suffer for water

well some times we do
but as a general thing
we have had plenty
you see amon on a horse
can find water if it is
within two miles
when I get dry I take
five or six canteens and
pull out and run my
Old horse until I find
some water I suffered the
the most when I was sick
for water for I could not
ride fast for fear my boots
would get filled but
the boys use to get it for
me as much as they could
this quick step is of fine
thing it makes a fellows
time so once in while
thouk the Lord I am all
right again we have
got a nice camp here in

woods with plenty of
water close by
I must write to your
things to day she is our
pigeon what god I believe
I have had water to me
about once in two weeks
so I hear from Mansfield
of ten enough Wilson
Marcus and I wrote to
Uncle Asa a few weeks
ago you must
have to write when he
gets the one we wrote
to him I think the
reps will use Adrian
well as they can the
sitious say they take
all the prisoners to
Jorgia but they say it
is not any more sickly
then it is here I had
rather be where he is

I am a ging to hone me
a good set of writing tools
when I get my pay if
the gutler comes then wout
I write to every body I can
think of when we are
in camp the rumor is
now that the veterans
are a going to be put to
gether and those that there
times is ~~not~~ put them
to gether they say they
are a going to send the
veterans to tenasse but
I dont believe these leas
I remember I thought
I would let you see how
the lies go hear in camp
sall I must quit for
this time Moreum is snorting
away hear like some old hot
Will Moreum is one of our boys
he is a going to be done just what
I know itt condemn it
Just dock good night

ask mory what she thinks
of ~~that~~ that letter I sent her
I have just been out
blowing my bugle now
I must feed my Old
racker and get some
supper pretty soon there
is four of us mess
to gether two sargents
block smith and bugler
the sargents by potatoes
and soft bread and
fish and I eat it we
live high I tell you
we have plenty of
pickels and sourerout
beery Oh we are doing
well now we dont
know what to do with
our selves here I write
most of the time
I love to write when my
hand dont tremble

how are you dearthy paper
I am short so I shall have
write on this to you
I suppose you wont be
I am in hopes we shal get
our pay in a few days
then I can get me some
things I very much
need my portfolio is
worn out I shal have
to get me a new one
and a spider and coffee
pot I have got me some
a silver cup and plate
that I took from a pretty
est girl you ever see but
we dont loir for girls
when we want dishes
and grub you may think
I am hard hearted but
I dont take any thing from
the poor I shal cost
about 40 dollars on private

horses he would payed
for him self if he had
we had drawn pay untill
the first July but we
only get pay up to the
first of May I dont
expect I can send much
home but I will send
all I can be I suppose you
need at every thing is
so high I suppose this
will answer for you and
so to I will try and
write some to Bro I will
write to Charley in a day
or two if we dont move
we may stay here two weeks
and we may leave before
night well I must stop
from your son

Francis Gray
Co I of the N. M. & Co. Society