

At Warington Junction Va  
July 27<sup>th</sup> 1863

Mr John R Babcock

Dear Sir

I received a letter from you last evening, Directed to Hiram Vincent, in care of myself, and as I saw it was in haste I took the responsibility to open it and peruse the contents, & in it I see you wished me at the earleast opportunity to inform you of the faite of Hiram. I do so but it causes me much sadness to to inform you that he is now a prisnor in Richmond, and yet we may be verry thankfull that he was not killed as we at furst supposed, for no truer or better man lives, a man who has sacrafised more upon the Allter of his country. he was permoted to Sargeant at Gettysburg for Bravery and good conduct, when it aught to have been a Lieutenancy. I am informed by a Lieutenant who was a prisnor with him four days and who escaped them that he was then well and in as good spirits as one could expect being in the same condition. I have toled you all I can learn of him.

You wished to know something of our Regiment. I can say that no Regiment has ever done better fighting then they did since the war commenced, and Cattaraugus may well be proud of such men, for no truer or Braver men ever left their homes, friends, Wives, Fathers, and Mothers and all they hold dear to them, to sacrafise their lives and intrests to help maintain the integraty of that dear old Flag which our Fathers left us, and let us pray and hope that their blood shall not be spilted in vain, but it paines us to know that these men who would \_\_\_\_\_ down this proud monument of Libberty, which our Washington healp rear for us or has simpathisers in the north, and the shamefull priace of business they have just been enacting in New York city is doing us more hurt towards discouraging our army than any thing these Rebles are doing, and they will be rememberd, if not by you of the north, they will partingly be remembered by us in the army. they will be remembered by us as the most dangerous enamys we have to contend with. we respect the open out spoken Rebbles of the south much more, for they tell us what we can depend upon, but these copperheads are like snakes in the grass. they talk fair at your face, but turn and sting you in the back as soon as you leave them. if justice was done them, a ration of hemp roap would be dealt out to them, and that to with out any mercy but you must excuse me I have wandered of verry far from what I commenced to tell you of our Regiment they went into the battle with nearly 300 men and only came out with about sixteen, about forty of them are wounded about Twenty in Killed, and and the reast of the missing are prisnors, but it happened that we had about 50 on extra duty so these we saved and we now in all only draw rations for one hundred and Twenty one men. that is counting evrry man we have wheather baring arms or not.

We have now ben marching nearly evrry day since the 11th of June when we leaft Stafford C H Va. we have since then been to Gettesburgh Pa. and are now about 30 miles from Stafford CH, whence we started so you can see that we have been of late kept verry busy. You can tell our Folks if you see any of them that I am well. I sent a letter to Father last night but it may not reach him, what is leaft of the Regiment is usualy well and in good cheer. We are to be filled up again with conscripts. We shall march again to morrow I think towards Culpeper C H. hoping this will find you safe I remain as ever your

Obediant Servant

Newton A Chaffe.

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[ Found inserted with the above letter is this note. ]

\_\_\_\_ Norman Allen told me the other day that in looking over the Papers and letters of John R Babcock that he ran acrost a letter I wrote to him when I was in the army in 1863, nearly 30 years agoe, and thinking I would want to save it gave it to me, and it has been saved so long I thought posibly you would be glad off it, and would want to save it for some time it will be quite a curiosity so I enclose it to you

NAC

NEWTON CHAFFEE LETTERS COURTESY OF THE GOWANDA AREA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, GOWANDA, NEW YORK