

Head Quarters 154th Regt. N.Y.V.
Goldsboro, N.C.
April 7th, 1865

Dear Frant

Your welcome letter of March 18th was Rec'd to day, it was full of news and interest to me, & I am now seated in my tented home, in the sunny South, and it is truly the Sunny South it seems to me it is always pleasant weather down here Such a splendid climate Summer reigns throughout the year. We have no Snow to block up the roads So that we have to drive in Cutters when we go visiting no frozen toes & cold fingers, but live in our Snow white tents, with the Sides thrown up so as to make it cool and comfortable. We lay on our gay little beds of Pine poles & boughs, enjoying the prospects & our laziness, Speculating upon future events, both public & private, fancying what may be after this cruel war is over & we once more return to our duties as peaceful citizens of a free Country We least now and then A sigh when we draw a contrast between this luxurious, lazy place to being at home at work, Sweating We earn our daily Potatoes, but this is not all the time we Sigh. When on the march in the hot sun & when leaden messengers of death fall around us, Sending our best friends to early graves, and death and destruction on every side of us, then we think of home & those we love then the mind turns back to the happy times we have spent with those whom we shall perhaps see no more, but Such times are not as frequent the rebels are Collapsing & have been gradually for the last year. their Soldiers have no courage to fight & they run like sheep. they have lost their last trump & are playing their last face card. Richmond the place for which So many of our Generals Started & had to return their Steps, is Ours. Our other Generals generally got thrashed before they got started McLellan got far enough to look in, but Grant is the man, he has held on with a tenacity of purpose which has not been equaled Since Leonides led his three hundred to meet Xupes. All honor to him & his brave army. we got the news yesterday by telegraph of the fall of Richmond have received no particulars yet nor got any papers. When we got the news we are formed a line of fight right around General Jones and gave three cheers for the unity & then three for Gen. Jones, three for the old army of the Potomac to which we used to belong then we all went home, & some felt so well they got drunk but I did not see fit to celebrate the occasion in that manner. So I finished up my monthly returns for March & sent them off & I am so glad I did for when your letter came today, all I had to do was to Sit down & read it & then answer it. You spoke of your splendid evenings Frant you dont know up north what a genuine moonlight evening is you ought to see Some we have down here the air is Soft and balmy, and it is so light one can see--read a letter by moonlight. I wish we had such

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evenings up our way. Id go Sparking when I got home & stay all night. we are now about two miles from Goldsboro, N.C. it is rather an antiquated town & will make a poor show after Sherman's army gets out of it. the rumor is that we will move next monday So we have got only one more day to lay still. I have been pretty busy since we got here making out my papers I now have got them all made out up to April So I can take the world easy for a while. Six months more & the old one hundred & fifty fourth will come home & then I bet Cattaraugus Co. will be alive place for a while.

Billy Casten & Cel are laying in my bed great lazy lubbas, they are lazier than I am & that is useless. they think they have got the laugh onto me when I told them where your father had bought a farm. I will tell you why when I was about fifteen I wanted to go fishing & Len would not let me. So I rolled up my Summer Coat and run away, I called it, I walked all the way however, and went to my aunts then living on your farm. you called it Shaw farm. they say now I will run away when and go to the farm when I get home but they are mean and I dont care for them.

We worked that place some seven years. Splendid place to go Strawberry if you & I will go one eve next year. go up and see your folks To see Abigail & Mr Nixons folks well Frant you will be near Marias and Bacbeks folks. you East Leon girls are all getting up into the country to live. I am going to buy your place where you live now if you say you go with the place & the one that buys it keeps you with it what does your father ask for it on such terms. Tell Maria I and you are coming up to see her when I get home & see if she is a nice house keeper & makes good Riis. Andrew Park & Seven or eight of our Regt were out foraging & got captured we dont know whether the Rebels killed them or not we hope they may come out all right. Frant your letter was just the right kind you gave me all the news Ill warrant youl go up west just when you know I will be at home so I cant see you, old meanest, if you do I shall follow you & if you [go] back [to] school I will get the next district to you & if you spell your school down any time you have a bully school

Enough nonsense

Good Bye from your true friend

Edgar

please write soon