

Hilton Head S.C.
June 4th 1864

De Mother

The Steamer has arrived bring-
ing a letter from you to your Sadder Boy.
Everything is terribly dull & quiet here.
Our principal amusement just now
is Chess. There has been considerable trouble
here occasioned by the failure of our Raid.
Col Bayly has been under arrest for several
days but will be fully acquitted of any neglect
of duty I think. What is the reason that
I do not hear from any of Uncle's folks?
The news we get from the Army of the
Potomac is very encouraging. I wish that
I was with them. They are acquiring Honor
& Glory while we are doing nothing. Every thing
moves terribly slow here. They have not commen-
ced raising that Cavalry yet. Consequently
I cannot get my examination. But it will
all come at good time.

I was very much pleased with the Letter
from Friend Willie. He wished me to send
him some memento of this Country. I send him
a Napkin Ring purchased at a fair got up by the
Nurses in St Augustine Florida. He undoubtedly
knows that it is the Oldest Town in the U.S.

Give my best regards to all the family
Also to Dr Hays & Family. I have given
up much hope of getting home this Summer
unless I get a speedy promotion. I have
not heard from Chas for some time
tell him to Write.

Yours aff Son
Austin

Beaufort S.C.

June 21st 1864

Dear Mother

I was beginning to think that you had forgotten me entirely, when the Steamer brought me your last letter. So Het has made you a visit? How did she succeed in getting so far from home at this season of active operations? Does she know anything about H. Elliott Julian, Bryant, or any of the Princeton boys that are down there? What are Uncle's family doing now? I should like very much to see them and shall try to get home this winter if I get my promotion. What is the reason I do not hear from any of them? Lizzie Blanchard has not answered my last letter. I was interrupted after writing thus far and was unable to resume my writing until the present date June 21st.

Consequently my letter will not go
until the next steamer. I have just
recd a letter from Nat written at Pickensburgh
on the 15th Ult. Can't imagine what
has delayed it so long on the Road also
a Paper from Chas. Nat enclosed me
a letter from Mrs Haller she speaks of
Mrs Haller Delano. and says "yes it is so"
What is the matter is she dead or has she
an increase of family. I am very glad
that I am not entirely forgotten by my
friends at home. for I look forward to
the time when I shall meet them again
(if it be the Lords ^{will} ~~please~~) with a good
deal of pleasure. So Jenny has grown up
into a good handsome young Lady
Did Willie rec the Pkg that I sent him?
There is some prospect of our being ordered
to Va. I hope we shall be as I would like
to be in at the death. There is no prospect
of active operations here for the present

We are very pleasantly situated now and
enjoy ourselves ~~very~~ as much as is possible
in this Country. The heat thus far has
not been as oppressive as I anticipated
it would be. There is a good breeze the
most of the time. And we have the
luxury of Ice, Ice Cream, vegetables &c although
at enormously high prices. What has become
of Lyons and why does he not answer my
letter? We have rumors of important
victories gained by Grant among which
are the reduction of Petersburg & Ft Darling.
Clark writes me that he thinks of
going to college. I am glad of it I think
it would be a good thing for him. I send
you a Photograph of Neal Bayley Comy
the 9th U.S.C. He is an old friend of
Uncle's. Give my best regards to all
my friends. If you can I wish you would
send me a Photograph of Uncle Eben
Your off son Austin

Beaufort S.C

June 25th 1864

Dear Sister

Your letter of the 13th ult
has just reached me. I was very glad
indeed to hear from you. Also found
Mrs Wallers letter very interesting. What
does she mean by the expression "It is so in
regard to Mrs Delano" Has she died Elope
or had a run? Since writing your letter
you have made a visit to Washington
Chicago & Princeton. I wish I could
have met you there. Has the place changed
much? or is it the same old Sippence?
as when I left. Who have married. died &c.
There is a prospect of our being ordered
to Virginia. I hope we may be. I have
seen a good deal of service there. and
would like to be in at the death now
if possible. What has become of A. Elliott

St Julian Bryant. Are they still in
the service? Also the rest of the Penitentiary
Boys tell me what you know about them.
The name of my Coal is Thos Bayly
and old friend of Clark's the Capt of
my Co is named Cook is from N.Y
a fine fellow but no Soldier nor ever will
be. You wished me to tell you about my
self. Well. I am rather a hard Customer
Swear Considerably if not more. I host Officers
& Men when ever the fit takes me. Have not
got in the habit of drinking Whisky yet
but presume I shall. Smoke a Pipe
pretty regularly. Am pretty rough with the
Men but think I am rather a favorite
with them notwithstanding. Do my duty and
make a pretty good soldier. As my health has
been first rate ever since entering the service
Have just looked in the Gleaner and think
that I am pretty good looking. Will send
you a Photograph when I have some taken.

We can carry as much bay gear
in this Dept as we wish. Consequently
we are pretty comfortable have good floors
to our tents. Chairs Tables &c &c. Write to me
as often as you can. Try and pull through
so that if possible we may meet once more
in this "Valley of Tears below" I was on
Guard last night consequently do
not feel very brilliant to day

Your aff. Bro
Austin

Bermuda Hundred
Aug 9th 1864

Dear Mother

You will undoubtedly be surprised at the heading of this letter. As you probably have rec no intimation of our change of station We left Hilton Head on the 4th Inst. and arrived here on the 8th. And I assure you I never made a move that was more agreeable to my feelings. Now that we have got away from there I will own that the climate & inaction of the Dept of the South was killing me. But now thank God I am once more with the glorious Army of the Potomac, and already feel five hundred per cent better. I shall probably not find much difficulty in accomplishing my earnest desire of getting into Cavalry here. I have not time to write much please notify Lizzie of the change of my address. We are assigned to the 10th Corps. Army of the Potomac. Write soon Your aff Son
Austin

P.S. I wrote to Chal just before
leaving Beaufort. please tell him to
write soon, and direct here



Va 9th U.S.C.T.
Camp near Petersburg, Va
Sept 21st 1864

Mrs. (Miss) W. W. W.

Dear Madame;

I regret to inform you that your son Austin W. W. is now a prisoner in Rebel hands and as slightly wounded in the fleshy part of his leg. It was indeed owing to his wound that he was captured.

I had the gratification of meeting under flag of Arce Col. Little 11th Georgia Vols. who had seen your son - who in fact took him prisoner; - the Col. seemed much pleased with his young captive, admiring his fearlessness & manliness and said he would do for him all he could. I sent a note to St. Vincent by the Col. saying I would write his mother & tell her all I could about him. Col. Little told me the wound was not at all dangerous, simply an impediment to locomotion. Your son was taken

in the fight of Aug. 16th (since which time ~~then~~ we
have had little opportunity for getting at our portfolios).
And yesterday I heard that all who were captured at
that time were to be exchanged - at least the unwounded.

Without straining the truth or my conscience I
can assure you that Lieutenant Wisner is one of my
best officers, better in the field and in action than in the
mysteries & labyrinths of red-tape. He is perfectly cool
and unflinching in the most trying hour and I placed
great reliance on him. We were all much
attached to him and will welcome him heartily should
he ever come again to the Regt.

If there is anything I can do for you, Madame
in reference to your son or his affairs I shall do it with
great pleasure.
Very truly Yours

J. C. Armstrong
Lt. Col. 9th Regt U.S.C.T.
3rd Div. 10th A.C.



Officers Hosp Annapolis Md
Dec 19th 1864

Mr H. L. Hammond

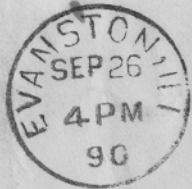
Dr Sir

Your very

Kind letter of the 14th Inst has just been received. I am glad to hear that I was of sufficient consequence when in Chicago to be mixed a trifile now I am absent. If Lige enjoyed getting that sword as much as I did reading about it he was a very happy young man. It was so utterly unexpected that I hardly knew what to think of it. I don't know whether to write to Lige or not until I am officially informed in regard to the matter. I answered Mr Delano's letter on the receipt of it. I am exchanged but have not ascertained what will be done in my case as yet. I have made application to be assigned to light duty but have not heard anything from it as yet. Exchanged Prisoners are constantly arriving from at this point from Charleston. Some of them look

pretty well. Maj Bogue of the 54th Mass
(Colored) was confined with the Enlisted Men
in the Pen at Andersonville. He has been
transferred now I believe to the Officers
Quarters. He was in the Pen over a year, when
captured they refused to dress his wounds or to
allow him any attention. There have been no
Officers of Colored Troops Paroled since I was.
I realize more & more how very fortunate I was to
get away from them. There are a great many
of the Men ^{die} very soon after their arrival here.
Sixty were buried to day and fifty one day
last week. A great many come here after their
friends and find only their clothes or some
little relic left for them in the hands of a Comrade.
I hardly know what to say about my sword until
I hear from Clark. If I am assigned to duty
shall want it. I will write to mother after I get
my Mail this Evening. My Love to all
Very truly yours
A. Wiswall

Arrival
Dec 19/64



Miss Alice Griswold,
Morgan Park,
Ill.

Letters written during the
war by Austin Wesivall

For Miss Alice Wesivall

(Copy)

Mobile Ala., March 25-1867

Rev C. H. Buckley

Supt of Education

Montgomery Ala.,

Dear Sir:

It seems that Mr. Branch has left the superintendancy of Schools in this City and gone into other business. This I imagine though he has given me no distinct information about it, but has only vaguely intimated his design to do so. But practically, he seems now to be out, and has his mind occupied with other matters. I do not see him or hear from him, and school matters are at a standstill. A new school has been opened in one of the buildings which the General permitted to be rented, but the larger building is yet unrented, and no steps are being taken with regard to it. I did not deem it prudent to rent it until it was evident that schools would be opened immediately. The best and most promising school we had here (that formerly in St Peter's Chapel) has been suspended, and is awaiting further arrangements for its accommodation. It seems to me that it is vitally necessary to have some one to supply Mr Branch's place if it is his design to really leave and I have therefore thought it proper to acquaint you with the present state of affairs. In doing so, I assure you I have no wish or motive except to promote the welfare of the schools. My relations to Mr Branch have always been most amicable and in writing this, I trust I shall not be considered as officious or as wishing to make

was evident. The best and
most promising school we had
here (that formerly in St Peter's Chapel)
has been suspended, and is awaiting
further arrangements for its accom-
modation. It seems to me that it is
vitally necessary to have some one
to supply Mr Branch's place if it
is his design to really leave and
I have therefore thought it proper to
acquaint you with the present state
of affairs. In doing so, I assume you
I have no wish or motive except to
promote the welfare of the schools.

My relations to Mr Branch have always
been most amicable and in writing
this, I trust I shall not be considered
as officious or as wishing to make
any suggestions about matters not
within my province. But there now
seems to be a lack of the zeal and
energy requisite for the carrying out
of any plans of schools, and as far
as I am concerned, my further ac-
tion seems to be thrown into doubt
and uncertainty. Very Respectfully Yours
Geo. H. Tracy
Capt. 15th Infy 6th Maj U.S.A. Sub. Asst. A. M.

NIGHT LETTER

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

25,000 OFFICES IN AMERICA

INCORPORATED

CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following Night Letter. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the Company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Night Letters, sent at reduced rates, beyond a sum equal to ten times the amount paid for transmission; nor in any case beyond the sum of Fifty Dollars, at which, unless otherwise stated below, this message has been valued by the sender thereof, nor in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.

This is an UNREPEATED NIGHT LETTER, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

THEO. N. VAIL, PRESIDENT

BELVIDERE BROOKS, GENERAL MANAGER

RECEIVED AT Cor. Jackson Boulevard and La Salle St., Chicago ALWAYS
OPEN

W 1643gs dr 35 NL.

Pasadena, Calif June 29th-12

6663

Mrs Frederick R Wickett

4740 Kimbark Ave,

Chicago, Ills

Our Hearts suffer with you we share your grief letter follows
place flowers for me.

Mrs Joseph Asearian

256a-30