

In Rear Port Hudson La.  
Co. A. 8<sup>th</sup> Regt. Vt. Vols.  
July 1<sup>st</sup> 1863

Dear Mother:

I will try once more to write a few lines to let you know that I am yet in the land of the living - and enjoying good health, the other day when I wrote to Lynnman I wrote that I was a little unwell; but I have got over that and am with my Co. now, We remain nearly in the same place that we occupied 4 weeks ago or more; our army have been to work verry buisy digging entrenchments - planting guns &c - getting ready to storm the place and take it as soon as possible; I havent been in any engagement since the 14<sup>th</sup> of June, night before last the rebels undertook to take a some guns our men had planted near the river. our men on the left repulsed them and drove them about half a mile. I havent heard what the loss was on either side.

Deserters are coming in from the fort a most every day or night, they report the rebs to be getting verry short of provisions - and many of them are getting sick and tired of it, they come in 25 or 30 to a time