

P.S. There will be a good many who will want to see the plan.

Camp Butler,  
Newport News, Virginia -

June 1<sup>st</sup> 1861 -

Saturday Evening -

My dear Wife :-

Your very welcome letter written only last Wednesday evening is received tonight. I am sorry indeed to have you feel so bad over false news. We have not seen a single fight nor are we like to. I am surprised that you do not get my letters. I have written you quite often, and in the future will try and write as often as you request - three times a week. I almost cried when I read how badly you felt. You must not believe newspaper stories for nine tenths of them are lies.

Sunday Morning. It was after 9 o'clock last evening when I was writing and I was pretty tired and I thought I would finish this morning. You and the folks at home must not be so anxious about us here. You probably suffer ten times what we do. For my own part I never enjoyed myself better in the world, and I am tough and hearty with the exception of the last remnants of my cold, and that is fast leaving. I have not missed duty for a single day. I was excused from one or two roll calls cold mornings before we went into Hygien Hotel at Fort Monroe. My health is better now than when at home and I am as tough and black as you please. My appetite would ruin a man with a small salary, and I can eat anything, clean or dirty.

Set them on fire