

Camp Butler, Newport News Va.

Saturday Aug. 3^d 1861.

My dear Wife:

I have time for very few words this morning. I am well and looking forward with some anxiety to Monday. We certainly go there as we ~~took~~ have had official notice of it. The steamers that are to carry us are already here and we have had orders to pack our baggage. We shall be in Brattleboro Thursday night if not Wednesday. It will not take long there to do our business as we are getting the papers all made out here. There is some chance of our being at home a week from today.

I am very busy now. In addition to all my other duties I am ferrying out all the liquor establishments, and every before yesterday about thirty casks were smashed and two or three of the outlaws carried as prisoners to the fort. I have twelve non-commissioned officers as my force of detectives and they are pretty shrewd in finding out what is going on.

Last night a woman and two children came