

Carrollton, La. Nov. 5, 1862.

My Dear Father:

I have delayed writing you for some time, as we have been holding a Court of Inquiry, organized by Gen. Butler, and I wished to know the result of that before writing. Gen. Butler seems to delay giving his opinion on the matter. He no doubt was considerably surprised at the testimony of all the witnesses and is at a great loss how to account for such unanimity. The evidence of all the officers not belonging to this Regiment was very favorable to us, and no one pretended to intimate that we did not behave well. Nothing but the blackest malice can actuate Gen. Butler to give us anything less than an acquittal. Still I am not inclined to be sanguine of the result until he actually gives us our long withheld merit. I can see now that it was only a malignant desire to crush us. If he does not give us justice, I suppose I shall be severely criticised for ever accepting of a Court of Inquiry called by him. As soon as I received notice that the Department at Washington had refused us a Court, I submitted the question to the