

Blount 7<sup>th</sup> Aug 7 1861

Dear William

Your letter that sent to me from Washington under E. P. Mattens frank the other day, and that Pettin is I don't know, But am going to Washington tomorrow, and if they are there will try and see them. We have been expecting orders to join the 7<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Eng. Regt for a week but don't as yet get them. They are at the Chain Bridge Georgetown lights, some seven or eight miles from Washington. We are awfully sick of these chain fellows, and shall be glad to move anywhere though we don't hardly like to move back to the Washington side of the river. We like this advanced post. We have to put one company on picket and one company on guard every day, and have two company drills and one Battalion drill daily. That you will see keeps us pretty busy. — This idea of having a company is new for us. But is a pretty good one. The Capt is "Officer of the day, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt "Officer of Guard". He then on Saturdays it make Gray Squad. — I make him do his share of work and I reckon he will get so he can