Heart Island Sept 20th 1869

Dear Mother,

I received your very kind letter of the 16th in due season, and can assure you that I was very glad to hear from you. You said you thought something had happened to me. But that is not the case for I am enjoying comfortable health and I never felt in better spirits in my life.

You thought you would like to see how I looked when I had to do my own work. — As for that part I do not imagine that I looked any worse while doing my own work than I would if I had been working for some one else.

Perhaps you would like know the manner in which I done it — so I will tell you, I procured a large peice of salt water soap and I took that in one hand and and my clothes in the other and marched down to the beach using long Island sound for my washtub, — So you can see that I had plenty of water — after got through washing my clothes they looked as white and clean as though some old and experienced washer-women had done it, You said that Senators Gurney had hired a substitute for one year and scratched the one year off the papers and put in its place 3 and one third and tried

and tried to sell him for a thousand Dollars. Now I do not believe he done any such thing. For the mere procuring a substitute does not have ~~any~~ anything to do with the making out of the papers and he is not permitted to handle them ~~papers~~. As for my part you need not fear that I will be sold for I was sworn and mustered in as a representative of Mr Norman Bissell and he has not got the power to sell me — for my papers were made out correctly and one copy is left at Norwich and one ~~at~~ is left on this Island — one is sent to my regiment and one to Washington, and they cannot

changed by any one, I received ~~your~~ the paper you sent me and I was glad to get it — you will please send me the papers containing the list of drafted me as soon as you get them

Sept 21st 1864

Being on parade most of the time yesterday I did not have time to finish ~~it~~ my letter untill to-day, Mr Wm Leaning, came on the Island last sunday — Daniel Winetser Albert Thom and Dry Morrison arived here last evening and I suppose they will go away to-day, they said that ~~said that~~ several others from maryland come in but I have not seen them — I received a letter from Avery this morning, I did not expect Mr Bissel would give the note untill it was settled how much Bounty I would get — No more at present so I will close hoping to hear from you soon

Your Son

Geo D Burringer