

Camp of the 11th N., Y.,
2nd Battery Light Art,
Fort Wheaton Feb, 3rd
1864

Dear Mother,

I received a your very kind letter of the 29th this morning ____ and I can assure you that I was very happy to hear from you and learn that you are enjoying good health,, It is a very great blessing which we ~~shoud~~ should all prize very highly,, I do not know as I ever enjoyed better health in my life than I am enjoying at present

You would be astonished to see how fleshy I am getting to be ____

I am glad that my grand Father did not purchase that place of Mr., Brown ____ †

I think that it is a very poor time to ~~buy~~ buy a farm when real estate is so high,, ____

There is considerable excitement in camp at present

All of the men that cannot march have been sent to City Point and the larger position our corps and the fifth and sixth corps are now under marching orders,, ____ Two of our cousins ~~have~~ went early this morning to ~~gi~~ join the ammunition train and orders have just come for us to hold ~~ourselves~~ ourselves in readiness at a moment's notice,, Some of my comrades are all ready ~~to~~ packing up ~~our~~ their knapsack ____ ~~We~~

We will undoubtedly have to go with in the defenses ~~of~~ around City,, Point,, ____ consequently we will not be apt to participate in the fight ____ I cannot tell where they intend to fight ____ you will undoubtedly hear the particular long before ~~we~~ you receive this

You need not feel any uneasy about me for I shall try and take care of myself,,

I have not time to write more at present,,

I will close hoping to hear from you soon

Yours

Geo D Barringer

11th N., Y., 2nd Battery

Washington

D., C.,

Barringer

Camp of the 11th N., Y.,
2nd Battery
Near Vanghm Road
Feb 26th 1864

Dear Mother,,

Having a few lesure moments I thought I would write you a letter,,I am well and enjoying myself first rate

Our battery was paid off yesterday ____ and I can assure you that there were many pleasant faces when the pay master made his appearance,, I was paid one hundred dollars ____ I owed the Sutler and some of the boys in battery some money,, and I shall want to keep some myself ____ I have fifty dollars which I wish to send home but I dare not send it at presant for fear It might not go through safe,, but I shall send ten dollars home in this letter ~~of~~ if I can get the change,, and if that goes through safe I will send more ____ What money I send home you ~~nut~~ my take and use it as you see fit ____ I commenced this letter yesterday but have not had time to ~~answer~~ finish it untill today ____ we have been sweeping up the park and cleaning off the caissons preparitory to an inspection tomorrow ____ Tomorrow we will ~~have~~ be ~~inspected~~ mustered for this months pay and our ~~first~~ second installment of bounty which will amount to ~~ou~~ 65 sixty-five dollars,, I received a letter from my grand Father ~~yes~~ and I will answer it as soon as I have an oportunity ____ We are under marching orders and are liable to move at a ~~notice~~ moments notice,, It has rained considerabl during the past week ____ and it is very mudy at presant ____ It is very warm ~~ha~~ ~~f~~ here for this season of the year ____ If the mud ~~dr~~ drys up soon you may look for some important move in this vicinity ____ you need not send me any money __ if you have not presented the order against Mr., Bissell you can keep it and use when you most need it __ you can use the order for yourself ____ I have not time to write more so I will close by biding you all a kind farewell,,

Yours in haste

Geo D Barringer

11th N., Y., 2nd Battery

Washington

DC

PS since I wrote this letter I have changed my mind __ Lieut Graves was just in my tent and said he was going to City Point__ and I scent thirty dollars by him to send to york by express __ you will notify me when you receive it

GDB

Harts Island Aug 23^d 1864

Dear Mother

Having a few lesure moments I thought I would employ them in writting to you

I started from Noswhich yesterday morning about 3 O'clock and arrived in New York about 10 O'clock last-night,, and we remained there ~~about~~ untill 9 O'clock this morning and then we took the steam boat and come to hart Island which is situated about 20 miles southeast of New York,, I presume you will be anxious to learn how I have fared,,

While in Norwhich I was furnished with first-rate fare,, They gave us good bread and butter, cheese-cake, beef and potatoes The night before we started for New York we had our rations dealt ~~ad~~ out to us for one day,, they consisted in crackes and beef __ but they took us from New York to Hart Island with out any breakfast ____ I have been well satisfied with my fare thus far,, I am well and am enjoying myself as well as possible,,

When we come on to the Island we were all searched to see if we had any licquor or firearms up on our person ~~thar~~ There were two soldeirs that had a dirk knife with them and it was taken away from them and they were put into the guard house and kept there for a while,,

I have not received my government bounty yet __ I presume I shall receive it in a few days,, we are a going to start from ~~our~~ Hart Island to our regiment tomorrow ~~a__sson~~ morning I have not much more to write at pressent ____ I will write again ~~as soon~~ as soon as I get to my regiment

Your Son

Geo,, D,, Barringer

Harts Island Aug 26th
1864

Dear Sister

Having a few lesure moments I thought I would employ them in writting to you. I wrote a few lines to my mother last tuesday,, I am remaining on the Island yet,,

There was a squad of about 500 soldiers sent away this morning and they are a going to send another squad away this ~~morning~~ afternoon __ and I may have to go with them,, I am enjoying ~~myself~~ first rate health and I hope this may find you the same,, There is a few sick soldiers on the Island at presant but as a general thing the men are all healthy and in good spirits,, There is about two thousand men on the Island There is about ten or twelve hundred white men ~~on this~~ and the rest of them are blacks,,

We all have to labor ~~8~~ eight hours every day __ we are general called ~~not~~ up about five O'clock in the morning and at six we have our breakfast and at ~~fa~~ half a past seven we have to commence work __ at ~~hi~~ half a past eleven we quit work and go to diner and we commence work again at two O'clock and work till ~~6~~ six O'clock when we quit work again and go to super ____ My fare is very good __ My rations are generally larger them I can eat,, In the morning we have a large piece of nice wheat bread and ~~our~~ a large slice of fresh beef well boiled and a cup of coffee ____ at noon we have wheat bread a slice of beef and ~~fe~~ beef soup __ at night we have the same as in the morning,,

This Island is situated about ~~2~~ twenty miles south east of New,, York,, It is about a mile wide and a mile and a ~~fa~~ half long,, I have been informed that ~~this~~ six months ago this Island was all coverd with brush and weeds with nothing but an old shell of a house upon it since they most all of the Island has been cleared of and a street built on the north east and On our side of the streets there are barracks and on the other side there are buildings for the officers,, There is a good side walk on ~~ea~~ each side of the street and also a nice row of trees,,

It is a very pleasant place Hear,, I have been informed since I commenced writting this letter that I shall not leave the Island today

I forgot to inform you that the buildings on this Island will be used (as soon as they are all finished) for Hospittle Barracks,, The boys from ~~Mif~~ Maryland have gone on to their regiments and I am in hopes that I may soon follow them

It is getting ~~at~~ to be about time to commence work again so I will have to close I have not received any pay yet from the government I expect I shall receive some before I leave the Island,, as a general thing they do not pay the soldiers untill the get read to leave the Island

Please write as soon as you receive this

Your Brother

Geo,, D,, Barringer

Barracks F
Harts Island
New York

Good By

Mr George D. Barringer
Barracks F
Harts Island
NY

Harts Island Sept 12th

1864

Dear Mother

Having a little spare time I thought I would employ it in writing to you,, I received a letter from Cornelia and Harriet Martin and also one from Emma,, I was very glad to hear from them and I will answer their letters as soon as I have the oppertunity,, I am on the Island yet and do not know how long I may remain here

They sent away about two thousand troops day before yesterday and they intend to send the rest of us away as soon as the government furnishes transportation,, When I inlistted I made a small blunder,, by not choosing my regiment at ~~No~~ Norwich and having it placed on my papers,, but I do not believe it will prove to be a very serious one,,

I may not go into the 3^{ed} N,,Y,, cav,, but I may go into one that is first as good if not better,, Most as the soldiers that have come on to the Island are going into cavelry or Artillery,, It is certain that they cannot all go into Cavelry or Artillery __ and a good share of them will undoubtedly have to be transfered into infantry,, As for my part I have come to the conclusion that it makes but little difference what regiment a person goes into,, I have not seen a lonesome moment since I have been here,, I am enjoying good health,, and I hope this may find you all the same,, There has been a good many here that I am acquainted with,, Pecthtels Boys,, Fred Olds and Ephriem Dunham went to their regiment about three weeks ago,, W^m Rifenburg and Rubin Honsr has been ~~here~~ here and has gone on to their regiments,, Frank Smallin and his brother went away about ~~an~~ a week ago and Carlton Talmadge ~~and~~ Albert Olds, Milton,, Cavehoven,, and Alch ~~Benit~~ Bennett went away from here day before yesterday,, This morning I come across Erastins Chase,, He is here yet,, I forgot to tell you that there is about ~~5~~ five thousand troops on the Island at presant,, ~~Are they like~~ Is there any prospects of raising men enough in maryland or milford to fill up their quota and avoid the draft,, Please send me a couple of cooperstown papers as soon as you get this,, Here on the Island every man has to ~~de~~ wash for himself,, we do not cook our own food but have men detailed to do it ____ At presant we do not have only one cook to about three or four hundred men,, we have not fared so well since so many have come in as we did when their were but a few here,, But I have managed so as to get enough to eat,, I have been told by old soldiers that we will fare better when we get to our regiment than we do here,, but if we only fare as well when we get their it will all that I will ask I have not received my bounty yet and do not expect get it untill I get ready to leave the island,, Has mr Bissde given a note for my bounty and has mr Sayer given the receipt __ I have no more to write at presant __ Please let me hear from home as soon as you receive this Please send me ten postage stamps,, write all the news,, leave out nothing for it is all interesting to me

Your Son

Geo D Barringer

Harts Island N,,Y,,

Hart Island Sept 20th
1864

Dear Mother

I received your very kind letter of the 16^{is} in due season,, and can assure you that I was very glad to hear from you,, You said you th__ing(?) st 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 doin my own work that 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 l of salt water soap and I took that in one hand 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 ~~w~~ white and clean as though some old and experienced ~~p~~ washer women had done it,, You said that Sanders Gurney had hired a substitute for one year and scatched the one year off the papers and put in ~~one~~ 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 man procuring a substitute does not have ~~ay~~ any thing to do with the making out of the papers and he is not permitted to handle them,, ~~papers~~, As for my part you ned not fear ~~of~~ 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 cobby 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 be changed by any one,, I received ~~you're the~~ paper you sent me and I was glad to get it ____ you will please send me the papers containing the last of crafted 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 today,, Mr W^m Lenning come on the Island last sunday,, ____ Daniel Winetsir Albert Thom,, and Iry Morrison arived here last evening and I suppose they will go away today,, they said that ~~said that~~ several others from maryland but I have not seen them ____ I received a letter from Avery this morning,, I did not expect Mr Bissel would give the untill it was settled how much Bounty I would get ____ No more at present an I will close hoping to hear from you soon

Your Son

Geo D Barringer

Hart Island Oct 3^d

Dear Mother,,

I received your kind and wellcome letter of Sept 25 in due season ____ It found me enjoying comfortable health ____ I was very glad to hear from home,, I have not received any of my government bounty,, and do not know when I may receive it but I presume,, I shall not untill I am to be sent away,, but desiring to get my matters in a closer shape I have ordered Mr N. Bissell ofr to pay you \$50,, fifty Dollars which you will please dispose of as following ____ Pay Olive Reuslu six dollars ____ Pay Eurdler \$5, five dollars ____ pay Alonzo Bartlett seven dollars ____ and Dellop,, bartlett,, \$10, ~~D~~ ten dollars ____ I borrowed ten dollars of Will,, bartlett,, and I made arrangments with him to pay it to his father,, please take a receipt of each one except our own folks,, ____ I have money on hand at present ____ but if I were taken sick I might need more,, therefore you may send me ten dollars as soon as you receive this ____, There will not be any danger but ~~t~~ what It will come safe,, A person who expects to live in the army without any expences,, finds himself entirely mistaking ____ If a person only buys but little It costs considerable ____ every thing cost about three times as much here as it does at home ____ As for my part I have resolved ~~to~~ not to confine myself to scanty allowances ~~if~~ I intend to live while I stay here if it costs my months wages ____ For if a person does not have plenty to eat he will soon find himself a sick man ____ ~~N~~ The remainder of the money you may use as you see fit ____ I wish you would have the postmaster send ~~a~~ for the Republican for six months or a year and then you can send it to me ____ Lester Westirn and his brother ____ Will Bartlett and several others from milford left here for their regiment last week

I have not time to write more at present ____ For it is time for the mail to go out ____
Reemember my address,,

Your Son

Geo,, D Barringer

Co,, F,, 2nd Battalion

Hart Island

New York Harbor

Hart Island Oct 5th

1864

Dear Mother,,

I received your kind letter of the 2^d just this morning ____ I was glad to hear from you ____ It found me enjoying comfortable health ____ You seemed think that I would not let you know it if I was sick ____ that is not the case ____ whenever I am sick I shall not be afraid to let you know it,, I have not had to sleep in the storm or cold since I have been here ____ We have first rate barracks and I sleep as comfortable as I would † if I had been at home

I have received some of the papers you have sent me ____ and if you address them the same way that I tell you in this letter ~~you~~ I will receive every one ____ I sent you a letter the other day request you to send me ten dollars ____ if you have not sent it please send it as soon as you get this ____ you need fear but what It will come strait ____ Please send ~~goe~~ National currency ____

They are a going to have six thousand rebel prisoners on the Island this winter ____
They expect five hundred here next Saturday

We have been having some very pleasant weather hear for the past few days ____

Not much more to write I will close hoping to hear from you soon,,

Your Son

*Translator's note: The bottom part of this letter has ripped off and is missing

Hart Island Oct 13

1864

Dear Mother,,

Your letter of the 9th is at hand ____ It found me well,, I was glad to hear from you I shall not under take to write particulars ____ I think you had better take the money of Mr,, Bissell,, as I ordered ____ For the prospects is that I shall receive no pay from the government under three months except my bounty money and ~~that~~ I shall keep the most of that with me,, I case that I might need it ____ You can pay off those that I spoke of and send me the ten as dollars I told,, and if you do not need the rest you can place it in my trunk and keep it there untill I make different orders,, You had better do as I tell you and then I shall feell saisfied that every thing is going right ____ You will please send that ten dollars as soon as you receive this letter,,

If you cannot get greenbacks ____ send state money ____ Always be sure and send ~~wen~~ when I order for I will be more apt to receive it __ Delay might be the means of my not receiving it,,

As you wanted to know wither I slept on the ground,, I can assure you that I do not ____ we good bunks to sleep on ____ in the barracks that I am in we good new linen ticks which have just been filled with good new straw __ we have blanekets to cover over us so you see we sleep comfortable ____ No more at present ____ This is written in haste

Your Son

Geo,, D,, Barringer,,

Co,, F,, 1st Battalion of recruits,,

Hart,, Island,,

New,, York,,

J,,B,, be sure and address correct ____ I have received the papers you sent to me ____ please send one every week,, I prefer the republican ____ but some times I like to see both ____

Your

G,,D,,B,,

Hart Island Oct 16th

1864

Dear Sister,,

Having a few leisure moments I thought I would employ them in writing you few lines,,
 I am enjoying comfortable health and I hope these few lines may find you the same
 ____ We are having very pleasant weather here at present Last week we had a very cold and
 severe storm here but it has cleared off very ~~ple~~ warm and pleasant ____ The soldiers on the
 Island have all just been out on general review ____ Every man has to have his knapsack well
 packed ____ He must be washed and dressed clean ____ and have his boots blacked ____ They
 are very particular here about camp ____ Every thing has to be kept clean and neat ____ The
 camp-ground is swept every morning ____ The barracks are kept in good order ____ and are
~~the~~ thoroughly scrubbed every Saturday ____ Every mans bunk must be kept in good order,,
 ____ His knapsack canteen + hawversack must be in their proper ~~places~~ places,, If a man
 neglects to comply with the regulations he is generally punished,, They are very severe here but
 if one obeys promptly he neednot have ~~no~~ any trouble,, Thus far I have got along first-rate ____
 We have to labor a little most every day ____ which makes time pass of quickly and is much
 better for the men than to lounge around camp,, There is but few men coming on the Island now
 ____ A few boat loads of enlisted men Substitutes, and drafted men come in during the past
 week,, There is about three thousand troops on the Island at present,, ____ They are constructing
 barracks on the South end of this Island for Rebel prisoners ____ They are building a tight fence
 around the camp where they intend to keep the prisoners which is about fifteen feet high ____
 They are a going to have about ten thousand Johnny Rebs here this winter,, If I remain here
 much longer I suppose I shall have the opportunity of seeing some of them,, Samuel Aplin from
 Posttandville ~~h~~ is here ____ We I get to my regiment I shall want some things sent to me ____
 Tell mother ~~to~~ to procure some light blue broad ~~cloth~~ cloth and have me a vest made ____ I
 want it made the same ~~size~~ size and stile of the one I left at home ____ I want military ~~puton~~
 buttons on it ____ but if they cannot be had I want smooth brass buttons,, Also tell hers to have
 a pair of woolen gloves knit ____ Having no more to write at present I will close hoping to hear
 from you soon,,

Your affectionate Brother

Geo,, D,, Barringer,,

Co,, F,, 1st Battalion

Hart Island

New,, York,, Harbor,,

Hart Island Oct 19th
1864

Dear Mother

Your letter of the 16th was received last evening and I was very glad to hear from you,, The money is safe ____ You seem to be rather reluctant about drawing the money of Mr,, Bissell ____ You must recollect that the interest on fifty dollars for one year will be only three dollars and a half,, the prospect is now that I may not draw any wages from the government for several months to come ____ and I shall want you to purchase some things so as to send them to me when I get to my regiment ____ consequently I think you had better draw the money ____ My wages from the government is a sure thing ____ so you can see that there can be no loss by drawing it,, for I can replace it ~~when~~ when I draw them,, I wish you would purchase some blue broad-cloth ~~me~~ and have a vest made ~~for~~ for me ____ I want † it made the same size and stile of the one I left at home,, put military buttons on it if you can get them ____ if you cannot, put plain brass buttons out ____ I also want you to have a good pair of woollen gloves knit for me ____ I also want a pair of good woollen shirts made,, I draw government shirts but I do not think they ~~th~~ are what they ought to be ____ Make them of small red plad ____ I want nothing but a narrow binding around the neck an nothing but a bit of bindin around the wrists,,

You may get things ready so that you can send them to me when ever ~~you~~ I may order ____ I may want some more things ____ and will order them when I ~~can~~ can think of them

I am well and enjoying good health,, We have comfortable quarters here and if I never fare any ~~wosse~~ worse then I have since I came on the Island I shall not complain ____ Mr Samuel,, Aplin,, is on the Island yet ____ I received the Republican ~~last~~ this morning ____ I have not received the Monitor ____ I subscribed for it ~~when~~ before I come from home ____ You wanted to know why I changed my address so often ____ When I first came on the Island we used to get our letters to the general post-office but it was so much trouble to the post-master ~~office~~ that we was ordered to have them sent to ~~the post~~ our company ____ but since then ~~wh~~ we have had a new commander on the Island and he has changed the number of our Battalion from second to first ____ I should be glad to hear from ~~ou~~ all our folks ____ I have no more to write so I will close hoping to hear from you soon ____ with respects to all I remain

Your affectionate Son
Geo,, D,, Barringer
Address as before

Enclosed you will find a pollitical document which you will throw in my trunk for safe keeping

Hart Island Oct Nov 2nd

1864

Dear Mother,,

Your kind and welcome letter of Oct 30th was received ~~day before~~ yesterday,, I was glad to hear from you and Cornelia,, and to learn that you are all well ____ It found me as usual enjoying good health,, I was sorry to hear of the death of my old friend Frank Burnside Death has robbed our army one more of its brave and noble sons,, Disease as well as the bullets ~~make~~ sometimes makes sad havoc in our union armies,, Frank was a good and noble ____ and his loss will be deeply felt by his friends and acquaintances,, There was considerable excitement created in ~~any~~ camp this afternoon ~~by a~~ on account of a German soldier committing suicide,, He was a member of Co,, H,, About two O'clock he walked into the sergeants room and took his razor and cut his throat from ear to ear and expired in a few minutes,, ____ This same German was knocked down and robbed last Sunday night ____ He was undoubtedly insane,,

There has been some sickness on the Island since I have been here ____ but nothing in comparison to the number of men that have been here,, They have got one case of small pox in the hospital ____ The man was taken yesterday ____ I am in hopes it will not spread,, in camp ____ and I dare say † it will not for every man is vaccinated when I came here ____ but † it did not work,, ____ We are having very fine weather here at present ____ You will please send me a good linen towel when you send me my things,, There is but little political excitement here at present ____ There is only about 6 six or eight hundred men on the Island now ____ Sam Aplin is here yet ____ I do not know when we shall be sent away ____ ~~per~~ perhaps it will not be a great while,, ____ Please send me some postage ~~stamp~~ stamps __ I heard that Bartlett had been wounded ____ and that Anson Mose had been killed I can not say how true it is,, I have no more to write at present so I will close hoping to hear from you soon ____ Does the monitors come ____ if they do please send me once in a while one,,

Your affectionate Son

Geo,, D,, Barringer,,

C,, C,, 1st Battalion

Hart Island

New York

be careful and address as I tell you ____ and then I will get your letters

G,,D,,B,,

Hart Island Nov 10th

1864

Dear Mother

Your kind letter of the 6th was received today and I can assure you that I was glad to hear from ~~you~~ you ____ I was sorry you could not get cloth for my vest The specimen you sent ~~is~~ will not do for a vest,, They would not allow me to wear such a one ____ if you can get a dark blue peice of wollen cloth and put military buttons on it misst ~~aruse the~~ do ____ If you cannot get it it will make but little difference ____ I am well satisfied with the cloth you got for my shirts ____

It will be impossible for me to get a pass to ~~get~~ go to the city to see Mr Bissell ____ but he can send the box by express from the city and it will come all safe ____ If I get it I will write and let you know ____ You are mistaken about my requestting you to come and see me ____ Attsong h I should be happy to see any of my friends I did not expect you could come and see me ____ I am glad that Cornelia to a going to school this winter ____ I hope she will do everything she can to improve ____ I hope the rest will do the same I will write more some time ____ I shall ~~+~~ have to close my letter for the mail will go out soon,, I am will ____ The news comes here that ~~A~~ A,,Lincoln is reelected president ____ It has been raining hard for the past four days but It acts as though it was a going to clear off soon ____ It has been very quiet on the Island for the past week ____ ~~not~~ nothing going on of any account ____ The ~~sergat~~ Sergeant has just brought in a letter tonight from you dated the 8th I do not know wether the box has come or not I have not had time to go to the express office to see ____ The cloth you spoke of will do for my vest ____ This is all at present,,

Yours in haste

Geo D Barringer

Co,, C,, 1st Battalion

Hart Island

~~New York~~

New York

I received the stamps you sent me _____

Hart Island Nov 17th
1864

Dear Mother,,

Your letter of the 14th was received last evening _____ I was as ever glad to hear from you,, _____ The box of things you sent me has not arrived yet _____ I do not know why is the reason _____ but perhaps they are on the road _____ I received a letter from Mr,, Bissell which stated that _____ the box would not be sent until the ~~fore for~~ fore part of this week _____ it may come yet before the week is out _____ If it has not been sent when you receive this please send it all the way by Adams express co and it will be sure to come all ~~safe~~ safe _____ When you send a box always remember this _____ never send ~~and~~ any writing in the box,, _____ what ever you want to write to me should be sent by mail,, Every box that comes in the Island has to be examined by the provost Marshall _____ in order to prevent liquer from being sent ~~on~~ to the soldiers _____ ~~I wish~~ Please keep track of what the things ~~are~~ cost that you send me so that when I get my pay I can make it good _____ I am getting about out of money again,, You may think that I am extravigant but I do not buy but very few things yet they cost considerable

Please send me ten dollars as soon as you get this letter,, I will make it good when I get my pay from the government _____ I do not wish to get out of money if I can help it _____ ~~it will~~ if you have not got national currency you may send state,, _____ National is the best,, You stated that you would like to have me ~~send~~ remain on the Island if I could _____ As far as that is consigned I will have to go when they say the ~~word~~ word,, The prospect is at present that I shall have to remain here some time yet

A person may not have an hours notice before he has to start _____ I have made up my mind to remain here until chose to send me away,, I do not know as I have any more to write at present

~~B~~ Try and send the money as soon as you get this if you can posible _____ If you ~~can~~ ~~can't~~ cannot send it ~~then~~ please do not send it until you hear from me again,, no more now _____

Your Son,,
Geo,, D,, Barringer
Co,, C,, 1st Battalion
Hart Island
New York

N,,B,, I am well yet ___ and I enjoy myself as good as usual ___ We had a small snow storm here last tuesday but it turned to rained before it was over ___ It has commenced raining here this evening ___ we have very pleasant weather here for the time of year ___

GDB

Hart Island Nov 24th

1864

Dear Mother,,

After having devoured my portion of the "Thank-giving dinner" that was prepared for us at the expence of the benevolent and patriotic citizens of ~~our~~ my nation state I thought I would try and answer you're your letter of the 20th ____

The name of the dinner was much larger than the dinner itself,, ____ If a person had been here and seen ~~7~~ the Turkeys pied potatoes, ~~9~~ Onions,, turnips, carrots and various other ~~vegetables~~ vegetables that was dealt out to the different companies this morning he would have imagined that the soldiers were a going to have a great feast today ____ It is true they got a much better dinner than usual but if the turkeis + vegetables had been cooked properly it would have been better still ____ Yet I do not suppose I ought to complain ____ I can assure you that the rich mince pies did not go bad ____ Every soldier feels thankful to them who have given their share toward making the dinner for the soldier,,

The soldier will have the mame of having had a "Thanksgiving dinner" given them and the officers will undoubtedly live on roast turkey for a ~~wk~~ week or more to come

The money you sent arrived all safe, I have not received the box you sent yet ____ I am sorry It was not sent by express ____ if it had been I would have got within three days after it started a good many men have had express pacages sent to them since I have been here and none have failed to get them except myself ____ I am in hopes it may come around all right yet ____ but I feel as though it is making slow progress ____ You ask if they will take provisions out of the box and eat them ____ I can not assure you they will not ____ They never take anything out but intoxicating liquor and citizens clothing,, ____ but they are required to examine every box ____ you ask if Mr Bissell ~~areeg~~ agreed to give me the same bounty the ~~don~~ town did ____ He did not,, but he was to give fifty Dollars more than the town allowed me ____ If the town had allowed the \$650 dollars he would have given me a note of \$700 but since it allowed but since it allowed but \$250 the note will be but \$400,, I am well as usual ____ They sent the most of the men off of the Island yesterday,, to the army ____ we are having very cold but pleasant weather ____ It is getting about dark so close hopping to hear from you soon,, give my respect to all

Your Son

Geo D Barringer

Hart Island Nov 27th

1864

Dear Sister,,

Having a little lesure time I thought I would employ it by writting to you,, I am well as ever and I hope this may find you the same,,

We are having very warm and pleasant weather here at present ____ We have had no snow here to amount to anything ____ We have had some cold and stormy weather ____ but as a general thing it is warm and pleasant ____ I heard from mother last tuesday + have answered her letter ____ Since I wrote to her I have received my box of things ____ I found every thing all safe and sound ____ except a bottle which by the looks of contained some pepper-sauce,, This was brooken fine ____ but all the rest of the things were in good shape,, ____ I can assure you that every thing the box contained comes in play at presant

The soldiers are living on Hard Tack at presant They are repairing and enlarging the bakery and I suppose we shall have to live on it till they get that finished ____ You may think that that is hard living but I like it about as well as I do bread

Hard tack is about the same size as ~~the~~ soda crackers and looks very much like them ____ but it is much harder and it requires Sonnd teeth to eat it unless it is thouroughly soaked,, There is only about 400 recruits on the Island at presant ____ A week ago we had over 150 men in the company that I am in but now there is only about 25 ____ Samuel Aplin is here yet ____

They have lost the papers of quite a number of men ____ I do not know wether they have lost mine or not __ but if they will be apt to find them when they come to give a thourough look after I cannot sayhow much longer I shall remain here but I presume I shall have to remain for several weeks yet ____ I ~~seu~~ suppose you are attending school at milford village ____ How many scholars are their and who are they ____ How do you like your teacher ____ write and let me hear all the news ____ tell our folks to send me A monitor once in a while ____

County news seems good I wish I could get a paper every week ____ I will close hoping to hear from you soon

give my respects to all inquiring friends

Your Brother

Geo,, D,, Barringer

Co,, C,, 1st Battalion

Hart Island

N,,Y,,

Hart Island Dec 1st

1864

Dear Mother,,

I received the kind letter from you and Avery last evening ____ I was very glad to hear from you and to learn that you are all enjoying good health ____ Your letter found me in the fe best of health ____ We are having very pleasant weather here at present ____ ~~One~~ It does not seem like the first day of winter ____ but I presume we will have stormy weather enough before winter is past to pay for all of this,,

The box you sent me was received the next day after thanksgiving ____

It was undoubtedly here on thanksgiving day but the express office was not open so I did not get it until the next day ____

Every thing was in the box just as you sent it ____ I was sorry I did not see Mr., Pershall He ought to have come to the barracks of company C,, and inquired for me and their would not have been much trouble in finding me ____ The sergeant of the barracks generally knows where to find me ____ Mr Philo Low was here day before yesterday to see Samuel Aplin,, ____ You had better get my vest ready and send it to me when Mr Norman Bissell comes I wish you would also send me a diary for 1865

You need not send more than that by him without I should order more ____ I feel very grateful to those that sent me the different things in box ____ And whenever I am placed in a position that I can repay it I will do it willingly ____ I wrote Cornelia a letter last Sunday ____ I received a paper from Aunt Susan last evening ____ I receive once in a while a paper from you I some times think that the papers do not come from the office to the company ____ but you may continue sending them and I will ~~watch them~~ try and see why they ~~are~~ do not ~~sent~~ come to me ____ They are a going to send two or three hundred men away today ____ but I shall not go with them,, ____ I have not much news to write at present so I will close hoping I may hear from you soon ____ I will write to Avery and Emma when I have an opportunity ____ Give any respects to all ____

Your Son

Geo,, D,, Barringer

Address as before

Hart Island Dec 7th

1864

Dear Sister,,

I have just received your letter this evening and will immediately try to answer it ____
Your letter found me enjoying the very best of health ____ and I hope this may find you the
same ____

It has been raining a little today ____ We have had no rain before in a good while

It has been very warm and pleasant here for some time past ____ You ~~an~~ ask "if I think
there is much pleasure in the soldiers life" ____ As a general thing we have it much easier than
we do at home but ~~we~~ live quite as high here as we would at home ____ But I guess none of the
men will starve on just what we get ____ Yet a great many would grumble and call it rather
hard living,, We have had to live on hard tack since thanksgiving ____ but now we are having
soft bread ____ I like the hard tack much better than I expected I should ____ I think it is full as
good as ~~hard~~ soft bread ____ You ask if I would not like to remain on this Island this winter ~~thi~~
The prospect is that I will have to wither I want to or not ____ They are a going to send a squad
away to New Orleans tomorrow ____ They generally send two squads away ~~per~~ from here per
p week ____ I expect my turn will come by and by ____

I was very glad to learn you are having a good school this winter,, I hope you will
improve as much as you can ____ You will find that a good education will be great ~~heal~~ help to
you ____ You may tell our folks that they need not be uneasy if they do not hear from me this
week

You may tell them to send me a few postage stamps ____ † I shall use the last one I have
to send this letter I did not know I was so near out untill tonight,, I do not know as I have much
more to write so I will close hoping to hear from you soon

Give my respects to all inquiring friends

I remain

Your Affectionate Brother

Geo D Barringer

Co,, C,, 1st Battalion

Hart Island

N,,Y,,

Hart Island Dec 14th

1864

Dear Mother,,

Your kind letter of the 11th was received last evening and I was happy to hear from you ____ I am still enjoying exilent health ____ You spoke of my vest,, __ I have come to the conclusion that if have not purchased the cloth for my vest,, that you had better let it go for I can get along very comfortable without it

If you ~~n~~ have time you may get a box of eatables ready to send to me ____ But do not send it untill you hear from me again,, I receive the paper you send me every week ____ but it generally comes one day latter than the letters ____ You had better send the Editor one dollar and that will pay for it for six months ____

I would not know how to get along without the county paper ____

I am having very easy times at present ____ I do not have any-thing to but keep fire in the barracks of company ,,C,, We have two good coal stoves and plenty of coal ____ so you can see that it is not very hard work ____ There is only eighteen men in our ~~company~~ company consequently ~~w~~ we have very peaceable times ____ We fare ~~consierd~~ considerable better than we did when there was ~~n~~ a large company of us ____ all of the companies in this battalion are very small at present ____ Have you heard any-thing of Uncle Jhon __ You need not be alarmed about ~~the~~ my getting in the hands of the rebels at present ____ For unless some-thing unusual turns up I will no be likely get very mear a ~~reble~~ rebel,, Some of the mens papers have been misslayed and I have been told by the orderly that mine is with them

I will undoubtedly have to remain here until they are found,, And I cannot tell how how long that may be ____ But I presume that will not be a great while,,

They sent away a small squad of men today ____ They were bound for city-point ____

We had a very severe snow storm here last Saturday ____ It was the first we have had this season ~~but~~ it turned to †rain before it was over __ and most of the snow disappeared ____ It has now ~~dar~~ cleared off and is very bright and pleasant ____ Samuel Aplin left here for his regiment last week ____ There is no one here from this section of the country at presant ____ but I have got acquainted with a number of those are here and feel perfectly contented ____ have not much more to write so I will close hoping to hear from you soon ____ Please send me some postage stamps ____ I received those you sent in your last letter give my respects to all inquiring friends

Your son,, G,,D,, Barringer

(Please Address as before)

Hart Island Dec 20th

1864

Dear mother

Having nothing ~~to~~ much to do I thought I would try and buisy myself by writing a few lines to you,, ____ I am enjoying very comfortable health at present and I hope these few words ~~my~~ may find you the same ____

We are having very warm and pleasant weather for the time of year ____ There is but very little snow here now

It seems very strange to me to see so little ~~to~~ snow and cold weather at this season of the year,, I presume you would like to know why I have remained on this Island so long therefore I will tell you ____ When I enlisted provost Marshall Capt Senie,, Goseton neglected to put the regiment that I chose upon my enlistment papers consequently I was sent here as an unassigned volunteer ____ This fact I found out after I had been on the Island about two weeks ____ As soon as I found it out I applied to Brig Gen N,,J,, Jackson commander of the Island for a choise of regiment,, and he informed me that I could not be assigned to ~~any~~ a regiment here ____ but would have to apply to the war department,, I immediately made application to Adg't,, Gen,, S,, Thomas,, for choise of regiment ____ Time has passed along untill now ____ and last night they called me out and gave me a choise of regiment ____ I choose the 11th Battery of Light Art,, and they enrolled me for it,, The reason why I chose that ~~regiment~~ battery was because the cavelry regiments are most all full,, ____ And since I have been on the Island I have got acquainted with several very smart and intelegent young men that are a going to that battery ____ I shall expect a letter from you tonight or tomorrow night ____ I shall not send this untill receive it with out I am like to start for my Battery ____ I presume I shall have to start for it in less than a week ____ You need not send me anything for fear it might not reach me ____ I am having very easy times here at present __ I fare first rate ____ I had got the good-will of one of the cooks consequently I fare better than most of the men do ____ I have not any more to write so I will close

Your Son

Geo,,D,,Barringer

N,,B,, 8 oclock P,,M,,

The orderly has Just received an order I am to go from here tomorrow ____

Geo,,D,,Barringer

Do not write till you here from me again

On board of the transport
United States Dec 22^{ed} 1864

Dear Mother

Yesterday morning I in company with about two hundred others received "heavy marching orders"

Canteens and haversacks were swung over our ~~shoulders~~ shoulders, Knapsacks were packed and strapped ~~up~~ upon our backs ____ The rolls were called and one days rations were dealt out to the men which consisted of soft Bread and salt-Junck, And then at about ten oclock we were marched on board of the Jhon Romer, The steam was soon let on and then off we started for the seat of war,, At the time the snow was falling thick and fast ____ The wind was blowing strong from the north west ____ The waves rolled high and everything combined to make it one of the most dreary days of winter,, after a few hours ride we arrived in New York harbor and was transfered to the transport "United States,," We ~~were~~ were quartered on the middle deck ____ We had been on board but a short time before a boat came loaded with prisoners ____ These had been arrested for bounty jumping, deserting, and for remaining at home over their furloughs,, There was about four hundred of them and a ~~ruffe~~ rougher set of human beings are seldom ever seen together,, ~~And~~ Among these prisoners are corporals, orderly sergeants and also one lieutenant,, They were most all poorly clad and very dirty ____ As they marched on board they looked as though they had lost all of their friends and were not like to gain any more,, ____ These men were all sent to the lower deck where they will not be very likely to get away ____ I should hate to be kept in confinement as close as they are ____ As soon the prisoners were taking care of a boat came with two + three hundred more recruits which were placed on board by this ~~time~~ time it was dark ____ The vessell was soon lighted up and coffee was made was made for the men ____ The evening soon passed away ____ The men spread their blankets and layed down to take their rest ____ but little did they sleep for it was rather cold and most of them was not used to sleeping on so hard a bed,, ____ ~~#~~ in the part of the vessell that ~~we were~~ I was in the men were packed as close as they could lay comfortable,,

This morning the sun rose bright and clear ____ Scarcely a cloud could be seen in the firmament above ____ The wind blows strong and the sun runs high ____ The men have received their rations of salt-Junck ____ Hard tack and coffee ____ they are all in good spirits ____ Some are singing some are dancing ____ others are playing the violin, banjo, on tamboene,, While others

2nd

amuse themselves by smoking their brier root or Mashanin pipes a few may be reading while others buisy themselves by nibbling at a peice of salt-Junck or hard tack ____

They have Just loaded on board six or seven hundred more troops ____ we have on board about fourteen hundred troops ____

They have put on steam and ~~we~~ are now under full head-way ____ before I close my letter will try and tell you of the rest of the voyage,,

City Point Dec 25th 1864,,

Dear Mother

As I have stated before ~~a~~ when the ship started from New York Harbor all the men seemed to be in good spirits and enjoying themselves first rate but in a few hours the scene began to change,, The men began lope down upon our ~~kap~~ knapsack ~~on~~ which was ~~evide~~ evidence that some were growing sick,, One after another commenced ~~on~~ spuing and before midnight most all had there turn at being sea sick I never can forget the sceine ~~that transpired~~ on board the vessell at midnight yet it would be impossible for me to discribe it so you would have an idea of the suffering the men had to pass through ____ Only think over fourteen hundred men crowded on board of a ~~vessells~~ vessell so thick that they cannot lay down without lying on top of each other,, at the same time the sea rolling high ____ The ship rocking to and fro on the ~~ang~~ angry billows in such a manner that ~~it~~ a man can hardly stand upon his feet ____ The men spueing over each other ~~so~~ and over the deck making it the most filthy place that man was ever compeled to live in ____ but after a while the storm died away and the men got over their sickness and they all took a little more comfort during the ~~the~~ rest of the voyage,,

We arrived at fortress monroe about two oclock on Friday afternoon,, We landed part of the men at this place ____ ~~and~~ and then proceded a few miles up the James river where we cast anchor ____ We dare not run up the river in the night for fear the rebels might throw a few shells at us,, Early the next morning we angain commenced our Journy for city Point ____ we arrived here about one o'clock P,,M,, yesterday and I can assure you every man was glad to breath the pure free air once more ____, The squad of men from hart Island were marched from the boat up in front of Provost Marshall Gen' Patrick's office where our names were ~~eo~~ called off ____ We were then march arround in front of a large building where we received our rations of Bean soup __ salt-pork __ and hard-tack ____ After ~~a while~~ this we were again mached in front of the office and the names of the substitutes were called out and then a guard of cavelry men come up and surrounded them and took them off to some place I know not where ____ Among the guards were John Spencer ~~I~~ and david Bostwick but I did not have an opportunity to speak with them ____ I in company

with the rest of the volenteers were placed in the convalesent camp where we will have to remain untill we are sent to our different regiments,, There is about two thousand of us in camp and the most of us propable be sent to the front ~~tomor~~ tomorrow ____ It is very warm and pleasant here,, There is not any snow here ____ It is very dry here under foot ____

~~I~~ I have found a few here that I got acquainted with while on harts Island ~~Some~~ There is a few here that have been here for nearly two months,, ____ It appears that they have lost their papers and cannot send them to the front untill they find them but I do not think I shall remain here more than a day or two at the least ____

We can now ~~here the storm~~ and then hear the booming of the cannon off towards the front ____ We hear ~~that~~ that the union armies have had some great victories lately ____ I heard ~~last~~ last night that Sherman had captured Savannah with ~~£~~ seventeen thousand prisoners ____ but cannot say how true it is ____ I have not much more to write ~~at~~ at present so I will close ____ When you write I wish you send me some postage stamps for I am entirely out ____ I want you to write as soon as you receive this ____ What letters come to Hart Island for me will be sent to you ____ You will throw them in my trunk and leave them until ordered different

I do not know as you can make out to read this letter for it with a lead pencil and in great haste at that ____ Give my respects to all inquiring friends

Your Son

Geo., D., Barringer

11th N., Y., Battery Light Art'

Washington D., C.,

Fort Wheaton Dec 27th 1864,,

Dear Mother,,

I started from city Point yesterday at five O'clock P,,M,, and arrived here last evening
bout midnight,,

I am now in comfortable quarters ____ and like it first rate ____ I have been viry buisy in
fixing a log hut to sleep in ____ ~~w~~ I am within about a mile of the rebels picket lines ____ It is
very quite along the line ____ may things that I could write yet I shal have time to do it in this
letter ____ I am entirly of money and should like to have you send me ~~¥~~ 5 dollars,, and that will
undoubtedly last me until we are paid off ____ I shall be mustered for four months pay and my
bounty next sunday,,

But perhaps the pay-master will not come around untill the last of next month ____ or
not untill next march ____

As quick as I am paid off I will send you enough to pay you for all your trouble,,

If you have got a box of things read you may send them to me ____ There is ~~know~~ no
danger but what It will come through all safe if you are careful to address it as I dired ____ Have
the following directions put upon the box,, ____

Geo,, D,, Barringer
11th N,,Y,, Battery
Artillery Brigade
2nd Army Corps
Washington D,,C,,

I have not any thing more for the presant so I will close hoping to hear from you,, I wrote to you
last sunday ____ You will please send me some post stamps,, brid your letters the same as
below

Your son

Geo,, D,, Barringer
11th N,,Y,, Battery
Washington D,,C,,

Barringer

Camp of the 11th NR
Battery,, Fort Wheaton
January 15th
1865

Dear mother,

I received your very kind letter of the 8th in due season and was happy to hear from you,,
The stamps and money you put in it arrived all safe,,

I was sorry to learn that my grandmother was unwell I hope that ere this reaches you that she
will have regained her health,, you will please let me know how she is getting along in your next letter,,

You need not send me a box at present-I expect they will ~~be paid~~ ^{pay} ~~of~~ ^{the} sold-irs
off in the course of next week and then I will send home Some money so that you will have everething to
pay expenses -If ~~A~~ ~~we~~ are not paid off within the next week I presume we will not be paid until the
middle of march

We fare much better heer than ~~we~~ ^{we} did on art Island-We draw potatoes codfish, mackerel, ,
Beans, onions, Pork,, fresh feef-Desicated vegetables and ~~v~~ ^v ~~various~~ ^{various} other things,, We have Soft Bread
about half of the time and the rest of the time we have hard tack-Pork and hard tack is about the best
part of a soldiers living-We have firstrate pork as a general thing -We take that ~~the~~ and fry it and
then take the ~~greese~~ ^{greese} grease ^{and} fry hard tack in it After the hard tack is fryed we put ^{it} in cold water
and let it stand for a a few minutes we then take it out and it is ready ~~f~~ ^f for eating ~~it~~ ^{making} It makes
first living-Before I left home I thought that hard tack was the ~~worst~~ ^{worst} worst thing that a soldier got to live
on I have found my self entirely mistaken,, -A Couple of my tent mates received boxes last night and I
can assure you that one had a big feast,, We _____ with each other-What one has we all have-I do not
wish to lend any better ^{^y} ~~yy~~ ~~_____~~ ~~t~~men then those that living with at present-There is not much news
to write at present,, You asked me if I had to do picket duty ~~I~~ ^I do not-All that I have to do is to help
guard the caisons and _____ I have to stand guard one day one of a week,, I have it very easy and take
much more comfort then I expected to when I left home-If I have it as easy as the rest of my time as I
have had it for the past five months I cannot complain-It is very warm and pleasant here at present I
have just come in from _____ sunday morning inspection As I have nothing more to write I will close hoping
to hear from you soon,, Give respects to all inquiring friends and direct as before

Your son

Geo D. Barringer

Camp of the 11th N., Y.,
 Battery Fort Wheaton
 Jan 21st 1865

Dear Mother

Your very kind letter of the 15th was received yesterday-I was very glad at hear from you and learn that you was well

You spoke about taking breakfast ~~me~~with me ,, I can assure you then that many people live ~~we~~ on worse food the soldiers do,, It is true that do not live on cakes and knick knacks –but a general thing we have plenty of good ~~substa~~_____ ~~sub~~_____substantial food which makes our men robust and healthy –I have ~~go~~just finished my dinner _____and I had some just as nice beef stalk as I ever ate ~~at~~ ~~he~~ in my life We have beef stalk once a week and sometimes twice,, I can tell you what kind of a bed we have-We drove some stakes in the ground and we cut some ~~of~~small poles and lay them ~~a~~_____t across-We then take some hay and and spread over them-We then spread one of our ~~_~~blankets on this –the rest of them we throw over us,, We have got four woolen blankets and one ruber blanket-We generally role up our over coats and place them under for a pillow-You may think that this is a slim kind of bed-but I can ~~asu~~assure you that I take as much comfort and sleep as well on it as I would on a feather ~~^~~bed ~~b~~_____d,, - The soldiers take much more comfort than I expected they could before I left home My bunk mate is Corp H,, W,, Parsnerlee,, He is a very nice young man ,,

Lieut Gen,, W,, Davy is in command of our battery at present,, We have got no Captain ,, -I have received the diary you sent,, I also received a ~~letter~~ ~~a~~paper at the same time I received you last letter,, I have read the letter concerning the sufferings of the ~~rebel~~^our prisoners ~~in~~at Andersonville –I have no doubt but what the prisoners suffer much that I fear that that letter is an exageration,, You spoke of my Uncle John,, I do not believest ~~___~~d to death-We should not despair as long as there are hopes,, -As for Betsy, I think that if she has any respect for her friends or her children she will c ~~_~~use such unlady-like conduct and and spend her time by looking after the well- ~~___~~ of her children while her husband ~~w~~_____is confined within the dungeons of our enemy-~~f~~I have received ~~_~~ pay from ~~our~~ ~~c~~_____the government yet and the prospects is that the paymaster will not be here this month,,

2nd

It will certainly be two or three months before we will be paid off and perhaps even longer-When I get it-I shall send the most of it home,, and you ~~ea~~_____ can have what you want of it to use-I will send you an order on ~~m~~Mr, Bissell for \$25 twenty-five dollars,, -You may use part of it in getting up a ~~bo~~tbox to send to me and the rest you may use yourself-~~need~~ ~~not~~You will plase send one fifty postage stamp,, -You had better present the order to mr Bissell as soon as you get- There will nothing lost by taking it-For as soon as I get my money from US government I can replace it-It is raining very hard at present,, -We have had no snow hereto amount to any thing since I have been here-It is warm and pleasant most of the time,, I have not much more to write ~~at~~so I will close hoping to hear from you again,,

Your Son

Geo D. Barringer.

11th N.Y. L ~~_~~t Battery

Washington,, D,, C.

Camp of the 11th N Y
 L__t Battery Light,, Art.
 Fort Wheaton Jan 28th
 1865

Dear Sister

Your very kind and highly interesting letter of the 22nd was received this morning,, I was glad to learn that ~~y~~ you are well and improving your time by attending school,, I am glad you ~~h~~ have so good a teacher-I am in hopes that by a steady and ~~__~~ tireing ~~and~~ application to your various studies, you very soon acquire an education that will be of great benefit to you-Since I left home I have learned the value of a good ~~___~~ time,, When I look around me and see how many of brave comrads are unable to write their own letters ~~and~~ (some not even their own name) and are entirely dependent on others for whatever knowledge ~~th~~ they receive of their friends, it makes me feel thankful to think that I can scribble as well as I can,, I do not know as I ever enjoyed better health than I am enjoying at present,, I has been very warm and pleasant most of the time since I have been here-but it is rather cold and blustering now-There is no snow on the ground and the roads are as dusty as in mid-summer,,-There has been no fighting herein this vicinity-We heard heavy c~~___~~adeing off on the James River,,-It is reposted that the Rebels attempted run their gun boats down ~~passed~~ ~~__~~ passpast our batteries to City Point but our batteries disabled one and drove the other two ashore

We can stand on fo~~_~~t welch and see the rebel ene~~ap~~campments very plain-in front of this fort our picket lines are only a few yards apart-,I wrote to my mother a week ago ~~and~~ yesterday-I sent her our ~~__~~ orders amr Bissell for some money,, If she send me a box I wishe she would put part of a ~~ham~~ in it-also a two quart ~~^~~ in ~~pad~~,, I wish she would send me by mail a couple of packages of envelopes and a quarter of a ream of the best kind of letter paper,, She had better ssend them by mail for they will come much quicker than they would ~~in a a box~~ by express,,-but the box would soon to come by express,,-I have not heard from Uncle Lafayette since I left Hart Island I ~~writ~~ wrote to him a week ago but have not received an answer yet,,-I wrote to Aunt olive whole on Hart Island-H us she received it-Not hing any more to write this time I will close Hoping to hear from you soon

Your affectionate Brother

Geo,, D,, Barringer
 11th NY ~~_~~nd Battery
 Washington
 DC

Barringer

Camp of the 11th N., Y.,
_nd Battery
Fort Wheaton
Feb 8th 1865

Dear Mother,,

Having a few lesure moments I _tong__ I would employ them in trying to inform you how I am getting along,,

I am as well as usual-I suppose that we shall start on a march to-morrow morning at ten o'clock-I do not know where we shall have to go- but I presume we shall have to move further to the left of the line-There has seem s___some very severe fighting within the past three days They commenced fighting last Sunday and have kept it up until last night-there has been a little fighting to-day but not enough to a mount to much-Our troops are still in line of battle-They have shiped large numbers of wounded to city point-We have not heard much particl__particular concerning the fight-It is reposted here that we have captured and are still holding five miles of the southside Railroad-I do not know how many more has been lost in the battle but it is reposted that we lost a large number-I wrote to you last Sunday-and to Emma yesterday-

I shall write to you again again as soon as I find out where I am going-You may continue to write the same as before,, My letter will follow me up-Since this movement has commenced we have not receieved our meals very regular-If you have not started a__a box to to me when you receive this letter- you need not send t-You will please send me the paper and nvelopes as I ordered-I have nothing more to write so I will close-you need not feel any uneasy about me for I will try and take care of myself,,
Yours __

Geo,, D,, Barringer,,
11th N., Y., _nd Battery
Washington
D,, C,,

Barringer

Camp of 11th N., Y.,
_nd Battery
Fort Wheaton
Feb 10th 1865

Dear Mother

Your very kind letter of the 5th was received last evening and I can assure you that I was glad to hear from you,, The ~~m~~—money and postage stamp arrived all safe=

I was ~~sorrow~~sorry to learn that one of the our friends (PheboeAuslin) had ___ _ulled upon to depart from this to another world-It is hard to part with friends but we should remember that she is removed from the cares and troubles of this world to enjoy a life eternal-While some fall upon the field of deadly conflict others are swept away by disease,, Within the past few days many have been laid within the silent ___tomb-We have been having a very severe battle a few miles south of here They fought for three days commencing on Sunday last but our battery was not engaged-Our battery has been relieved from fort ~~welch~~Welch,, Our guns moved last night-about three miles from here is^and are now lying between here and Hatchers,, ___, I am a driver on the carisons consequently I did not have to move-I presume our caisons will move in the course of a few days-I am well as usual and have plenty to eat at present-Yet there is some of the men that complain that they do not have enough to eat-There was a man in my tent this morning belonging to a battery that relieved no who said ~~he~~—he had got no money but wisheel to trade off a very nice pocket ~~bee~~—book for some hard tack-I did not trade with him but gave him part of my rations,, I considered that I would be wrong to take the ~~atvantage~~advantage of a man because he was out of money and half starved-I have got seven days rations on hand-And we are ~~e~~—ordered to keep so much on hand to until further orders-I received a letter from Uncle L,,F,, Peessee,, He is well and enjoying himself very well-You need not send me any box ~~until~~at present and if I shall be situated so that a box will reach me I will inform you of it-Did you get the order I send you-And did ~~mr~~Mr, Bissell pay it-You did not say every thing about it in your letter-Its for paper and envelopes you can send them by mail just as well as you can by express-and you can but it much cheeper than I can here-I shall have paper + envelopes everys to lost me a spell yet-I wrote to you day before yesterday- does our folks know when they will move next spring-Write as soon as you get this-I was glad to hear from Emma I shall answer her letter as soon as I have lesure-as I have no more news I will close-Direct as before Your son Geo,, D,, Barringer

Barringer

Camp of the 11th N., Y.,
 and Battery
New Hatchers Run
Feb 13th 1865

Dear Mother,

It is under rather peculiar circumstances that I am now writing you these few hurried lines-We left our old camp early this morning-I am now in our new camp and am writing this letter by the light of a big blazing fire which is made of big pitch pine knots-I am now lying down upon a few peices of pouches and ~~w~~ using my knapsack for a writing desk-Our encampment is situated in the midst of a thicket of small pin_ near Hatcher's Run-It would astonash you to see _____ t of land that _____ army has cleared of within the short time we have been in ~~thi~~ this vicinity-The timber has been used for building quarters, constructing _____ brestworks and making cordary roads-I have been to work hard all day helping to split out timber for building our cabin-We are going to have a very pleasant camp if we are alowed to remain here long enough to fix it up,, But if the weather con_____tinues fure I think it is doubtfullwether we remain here long-To night for the firt time since I have been in I shall sleep on the ground,, For our tent to night we have set up a couple of crutches in in the ground and laid a pole in then and spread a _____ paulin over it for a covering-I think ^I shall take considerable comfort _____ while sleeping by a good warm fire,, Its warm and very pleaset out to night Not a cloud dots the fermnent above-The moon sheets forts its pale light over the surrounding landscape-and as far as the ~~eye~~ eye can extend can be seen the light of the blazing camp fires-making a most sublime and magnificent scene-Feeling a little fatigued ^from my days _____ I shall have to close my letter for the ~~the~~ present-I am well as usual-We are having very pleasant weather here at present-You need not be surprised If you should not here from me soon for I ~~sl~~ shall have so much work to do that I shall not have a _____ time to write-I received a letter from my Aunt Susan to day-she was well

Yours in heart

Geo,, D,, Barringer
Adress as febefore

Barringer

Camp of 11th N., Y.,
 _and Battery
Near Vanghn Road
Feb 19th 1865

Dear Mother,,

Having a few lesure moments I thought I would employ them in trying to ~~learn~~ let you know how I am getting along in my new home-

We have gjust got our new guards up and are now living very comfortable,,

I am now seated ~~very~~ by the side of a good blazing fire-I have been very busy during the past week-putting up a house to live in It is built of logs-We took and split them and put up our tent in the form of a stockade-and covered it with canvess-It is very comfortable here We left our old camp last Monday-and now we are by my near the vanghn Road Our guns are mounted in ~~wa~~ what is called Battery ,,B,, Our men have thrown up some very strong earthworks and I think there will no trouble about holding their prisoners

The boys are now cooking a mess of beans-I shall soon have to go on guard and when I come off I expect to have a fine meal-

I wrote to you last ~~Monday~~ Monday-I have not heard from home in a little more than a week-I heard from uncle W Dunham,, He is at p Landing He says that he is enjoying exilent health

I hear that Gen Grant has made arangementsfor the exchange of prisoners of war-And I presume that in the course of a few weeks that Uncle ~~John~~ John (if living) will be exchanged-I on last ~~F day~~ Friday I saw a young man shot for desertion-he belonged to the 124th N.,Y,, His name was John Hoffmen-I have not time to write more at present so I will have to close hopping I shall hear from you soon-

Your affectionare son

Geo, D,,Barringer

11th N., Y, Battery

Washington

D,,C,,

Barringer

Camp of the 11th N., Y.,
 and Battery,,
New Vanghn road
March 5th 1865

Dear mother,, I

I am in receipt of your kind letter of the 26th of last month which came to hand this morning-It found me enjoying the very best of health-I was as I always am very glad to hear from you-I was happy to learn that you are enjoying good health,, It is very warm and pleasant to day-but it is rather muddy-we have been having some very severe rains during the past two weeks-If ~~our~~ it continues as wet and muddy under feet as it is at present there will no move in this vicinity,, -Gen Grant has constructed a railroad since the last fight and it is in good running ~~€~~ ~~€~~ condition as far as Hatcher's Run If you had our union army up in ts go Co you could soon finish the ~~Alb~~ Albany and Susquehanna Railroad,, -Night before last the cars ran all night-They were bringing troops up from City Point Port of the regiment that Will Bartlett belonged to has come here-and I went to visit it to-day but could not find ~~the~~ many of the Milford boys-I have been paid off and have sent \$20 dollars to you-Please let me here from you as soon as you get-I sent it ~~from~~ by Adress express-

I should have sent more but I did not know wither it would go safe-

I have some photographs which I will send in this letter-J will please take care of them for me my comrade is baking some wheat pancakes consequently I will have to close ~~h~~ in order to ~~p~~ to devour my feast Give my respects to all ing and write soon,, Adress as usual and excuse mistakes
Geo D Barringer

Barringer

Camp of 11th N., Y., Battery
March 12th 1865

Dear Sister

I am in receipt of your kind and welcome letter of the 5th which I come to hand this morning-and I can assure you that I was happy to hear from you and to learn that you are enjoying good health,-

I was well pleased to learn that you are making such rapid progress in your various studies,-

How do you get along this winter in everithing composition,, Do you write for the paper-I was surprised to learn that Will Bartlett was sick-I am in hopes that he may soon recover-If you hear from him please let me know how he is getting along,,

I have wrote home several times lately and have received ~~no~~ answers-I sent my mother thirty Dollars by express-I also ^wrote ~~send~~herea__letter to let her know that I a__sent it but have received no answer from it yet-I think it is near time,, T__Tell our folks ~~that~~to write and lett me know wither they have received it or ~~know~~not Tell mother to send me couple of pocket handkercheifs-She can wrap them up in a paper and send them by mail They will undoubtely come throuly safe Tell here also to send me a couple of packages of envelopes-I would buy them here but what we buy here cost about three times what it is worth-How does Chance improve in his studies-Does he get along very just We are having very pleasant weather at present-The sun shine bright and clear but it is rather muddy under feet on account of the heavy rains we have had in this section of the country During the past few weeks,, I visited the 152nd N.Y. ____a week ago last Saturday-I saw Gen Manchester he was well-I have not much ~~new~~__news to write so I will close

Yours in heart

Geo D Barringer

11th N.Y. Battery

Washington

DC

Camp of the 11th N., Y., and
Bsttery,, March 13th 1865

Dear Mother

Your very kind letter of the 5th + 6th was received last evening and I can assure you that I was happy to hear from you-I am glad you are enjoying good health-I received a letter from Corndin yesterday and I immediately ~~answe~~ answered it-Jon stated that you had not presented that order to mr,, Bissell,, -You had better preserve the order and when ever you need ~~a~~ money you can present it to him and get it-I sent you thirty Dollars by express nearly two weeks ago-Jon will please write and let me know wither you receive it-I hope that my Grand-father will have good luck in moving-If he can get a good suger bush to tent upon reasonable terms I think he had better take it for Avery is getting large enoug so that he can do considerable of the work and ~~it~~ find if it is a good reason ~~ø~~ for making suger she will make more than enough for his own use which is an important time I am glad that my aunt Olive is getting such large wages this year-I think that Cornelin had better learn to make cheese-She can earn more at that business than she can at any other,, -I wish you would send me ~~some~~ two dozen two cent postage stamp-I would like to have you and me ~~s~~ me a couple packages of envelopes-Jon — may also send me a couple of pocket ~~hand ch~~ hand kercheive,, You can wrap them up in a good stont paper and send them by mail-I would purchase them here but every thing we buy here costs about three times what it is — worth-I have nothing more to write so I will close hoping to here from you soon I received a paper from you-but I had received one of the same state a week ago-I take the oteego Republican I comes regularly every week,,

— ell — I would like to get a Freemans Journal once in a while,, We are having very pleasant and warm weather at present,, I has recieved considerable within the past few — weeks-and it is very muddy

Groom call has just sounded and I shall have to turn out

Yours in heart

Geo,, D,, Barringer

Camp of the 11th N., Y., Battery
 March 15th 1865

Dear Sister,,

Having a few leisure moments I thought I would try and write you a few lines-I wrote to Avery yesterday and stated that I we expect to move we have not moved yet but ~~d~~do no know how soon we may leave to move-We are making all of the necessary preparations for a great move-All of the sutters have been ordered to the rear-and are moving as fast as possible-We have just turned in two guns and hereafter will have only four guns in our battery-This change will make the duty much lighter-we have been ordered to turn in all surplus clothing-It is _____ mi__ing dry at present but there is prospects of it raining here within a few hours-There will undoubtedly be an important move here within a f__few days unless there should be a severe rain ^storm to prevent it-I was on guard last night and I could hear the c_____ingm__t of the time-They were bringing up troops and supplies for our army,, -It is reported here that to day they are a going to tear up the new military Rail Road,, but I do not place any confidence in this report yet it may be true-We _hale evidently soon find and-There is considerable excitement in camp in account of this move-You need not feel uneasy on my account for I shall try and look out for my self-I have nothing more to write so I will close hopping to here from you soon-I commenced ^10_6 o'clock P.M., this letter this morning and did not have time to _____^finish it untill now,, it has rained some during the day but it has now cleared off and there is prospects of having a spell of fair weather-We have turned in a all of our surplus clothing-~~Ech~~Each man is allowed to carry one extra shirt-one pair of drawers one pair of extra pants-one pair of stockings-one pair of extra pants-one gun-blanket-one woolen blanket these is all he can carry in his knapsack-Men belonging to a battery do not have to carry their knapsack on their backs-but they generally strap them on the caisson and on the limber of it _____gun I s___ may not time to write more so I will close hopping I may here from you soon—

You affectionate Brother

Geo,, D,, Barringer

Direct the same as before + excuse mistakes

Yours

GD,,B,,

Barringer

Camp of the 11th N., Y., Battery
March 16th 1865

Dear Mother

Having a few leisure moments I thought I would try and write you a few lines-We have just been out on monthly inspection-It would be quite a curiosity for some to see a whole battery out on inspection Each man is required to be clean and have his boots blacked-All are dressed alike and in full uniform-Drivers must have their horses well groomed and the trimmings of their harnesses must all be bright-The guards must be all clean and in good condition we were just called out a few minutes ago-ordered to send all surplus baggage to artillery Brigade head quarters immediately,, -All of the necessary preparations are being made for an action campaign-All the sutters are sent to the rear and every thing that is considered to be a burden to our army when it is on the move-We are liable to move at any moment-we generally move nights so as to avoid the heat of the day-The fifth, sixth, + second corps are now under marching orders-It would be impossible for me to tell where we will go-I attended church a few nights ago It would be quite a novelty for you to see us attending church in the army-Our chappel is not constructed with the beauty and magnificence of another architecture-but is hewn out in the rough style with which soldiers are compelled to build-It was about thirty feet long + twenty feet wide-It was built of pine logs which are split and set up in the form of a stockade and covered with canvas-In one corner stands the chaplains desk and in an other corner is a case containing a library for the soldiers-We are having fair weather at present is as warm here at present as it is in Otseego in midsummer-Not having anything more to write I will close hoping I may hear from you soon-Please write as often as you can conveniently

Your son

Geo D Barringer

"Direct as before"

New Len O_ Will Co
 Illinois Camp of 11th N. Y. _nd
 Battery March 22nd 1865

Dear Mother

Upon this warm and pleasant spring morning when all nature glows with ~~l~~l~~yn~~yn loveliness and beauty beauty I am comfortably seated ~~by~~ within our little cabin trying to write you a few lines to let you know how I am getting along,, It rained very hard During yesterday but ~~it~~ has cleared off and is very pleasant to day,, We have been having some very warm weather during the past two weeks,, It is nearly as warm here now it is in the month of June in Otsego Co,, Last sunday this brigade was reviewed by General Humphreys We are expecting that there will be another grand review within a few days-I visited the 152nd Reg last sunday and saw ~~G~~G George Manchester,, He was making preparations for to go and on review -He seemed to be enjoying very good health,, I had an introduction to Capt Holden of Co H ~~H~~ -He said that Alongo Wellman belonged to His ~~compay~~ company but I did not see him-There's very few men in the regiment that I was acquainted with I see by the sunday morning that there has been a ~~H~~H heavy freshet up in the state of N,,Y,, Jon will please let me know some of the particulars concerning it when you write to me again Jon would be surprised if you knew how ~~much~~ much sport the soldiers have _____ while in camp We have several in the battery who can play upon the violins-and also two violins-We have a very _____ smoth and nice park in front of our tents-The boys can greg_te upon this ground when there are bright and pleasent evenings and have a dance-We have several different kinds of ~~m~~m musical instrument within the battery-such as the Consertena-Chrdin-Jember flute +c-We ^have first rate times while in camp-But I suppose we shall see rather rougher times we the campaign commences-It is rumored that the ~~s~~s sutters are to be allowed to come back to the army but I can hardly believeit-I presume the that the army will not be still much longer if the weather continues fair and the roads keep in good order,, -It is expected that there will be a grand review of the second corp this afternoon or to morrow-Our battery will not go out but will be used to hold the position of two or three batteries along line-About a half a mile from here the lines of the of the two armies are so near together that the pickets can ~~hear from~~ converse with each other-the rebels seem to be very much disheartened-and large num_____bers of ~~d~~d deserters come into our lines every night,, -When one takes close observations of the national offi_____ it is plain to be seen that peace is near at hand ,, -a few more desicive battles I feel sure must prove that this _____ great rebellion is a failure,, -Nothing more to write I will close hoping I may hear from you soon-Give my respects to all inquiring friends and write all of the news-There is nothing in the army that seems so good as to have plenty of news from home-
 Your ~~s~~s Son

Geo D Barringer
 11th NY _nd Battery
 Washington DC

Camp of the 11th N., Y., Battery
 March 17th 1865

Dear Sister

I received your very kind and welcome letter of the 12th last Sunday and I thought I had better answer ~~the~~ it to-day being I had considerable spare time,, I was glad to hear from you-You seemed to complain because I ~~did~~ do not write often enough-I am sure I try to write home as often as possible-I have written home once or twice a week-and this week I have written ~~wh~~ a letter home everyday this week and will write twice a day,,Jon must not think that I have nothing to be but write-for such is not the case-I have had more time this week than I generally have When I write home I do so calculating that you will all hear ~~f~~ from me-Jon should recollect the old max__ that "those who live in glass houses should not ~~e~~^commence throwing stones"-Next time you accuse me of not writing often enough you had better try and set an example,,-I presume that ere you receive this you will have become settled down in your new resident Whose house are you a going to live in-

I was sorry to hear of my friend W Bartlett It does not seem possible ~~for~~ that such a change could take place in so short a time-When I parted with him a few ~~_____~~ months ago he was robust and healthy but now he is sleeping within these ~~l__t~~ too__ I join with his friends and ~~r_____~~ relatives in their ~~be~~ bereavements He had ~~a~~ always provided to be great friend of mine-Disease sometimes make sad

1stEmory Hospital
May 25th 1865

Dear Mother

Having nothing to do to pass away time I thought I would write you a few lines to to let you know where I am and ~~what~~ how I am ~~at~~ getting along,,

As you will see by the heading of my letter that I am still in Emory Hospital ____ † My health is improving very fast ____ Day before yesterday the gereinel review of the armies of the potomac and the armies of the west commenced and ended yesterday,, ____ The army of the ~~potomeic~~ potomac passed through the first day under the command of Maj' Gen' Meuch ____ It was a most splendid sight ____ ~~Almost ever~~ Upon almost ever housetop ~~to~~ the Stars and Stripes were flung out to & float upon genth ~~briez~~ breeze breeze,, In the morning of the first ~~of~~ the fight day the sun ~~and~~ rose bright and clear not a cloud be seen upon the light blue sky making evry thing beam with lovelyness and beauty ____ About 9 o'clock the of ~~head~~ heat of the column ~~cam~~ commenced moving through pennsylvania avenue consisting of ~~Gen Me~~ Gen' Meade his staff and escort following in succession were the Cavelry corp, Provot Marshals brigade, engineers Corps,, ninth corps on Division of ninthteenth corps 5th and 2^{ed} corps ____ It took untill ~~nearly~~ three o'clock before the last of the column passed through the ~~et~~ city,, Nun

Numerous banners ~~wre~~ with various incription on them were flung out to the ~~bere~~ breeze where the brave troops might see ~~theam~~ them

The ~~followit~~ following inscripttions are some that I noticed in partiticular ____ "The brave heroes of our republic" ____ "Honor to the brave" "All honor to the brave soldiers" "All honer Grant and the defenders of our Country" ____ I saw a great many more beautiful and appropriate inscriptions ~~wit~~ which I have space in this letter to mention,, many of those brave and careworn heros have never before steped upon the pavements of the capitol of our country,, ____ many of the regiments in the army of the potomac Did not avarage a hundred men ____ A close observer might ask where are they gone ____ But the question is easily answered ____ Some are lying sick in hospitals ____ Some few have discharged and sent home ____ And many have been laid low upon the burning lands of ~~W~~ virginia by the whistling bullets or the bursting or the bursting of shells ____ while no Small number have dies by starvation with in rebel ~~dung~~ dungeons dungeons or prison houses ____ most of the ensings of the different regiments had ~~all~~ been tatered and to ~~turn~~ torn by the rushing bullets ~~ever~~,, Every banner carried the diferent reg ~~and~~ reg iments and thesos floating ~~froms~~ from the housetops and windows were decorated with ~~morning~~ mourning ____ Amid all the pomp of military ~~are~~ array there was a solinemness which no close observer could fail to notice __ But some may ~~ureiy us~~ ask why is this demonstration of sorrow among the soldiers - for the loss of ~~a good~~ a great and good President ____ A man who ~~n~~ for over four years carried our nation through the

peral and trials our nation has ever seen,, ____ ~~and~~ But Just as our armies were in the very highth highth highth of tryumph and the prospects for a bright and seedy ~~peach~~ peace had

2^d

began to make the peoples hearts leap for y joy,, he was attacked ~~by he m~~ and murdered by the assassin ~~in~~ at night in ~~esp~~ a public place ____ I believe you stated in your letter previous to this that made light of the presidents ~~mur~~ murder ____ All that ~~th~~ I have to say in regard to it is simply this ____ Any one that makes light of the presidents or sanctions ~~the ass~~ in any manner whatever the assassination of the president is no friend to christianity or civilization ____ and is as bad in my estimation as the [] that committed the crime ,, ~~an~~ and are much more cowardly than most of those that have been in armes against the government for the last four years ____ I have digressed some from my

On the second day of the review there was much more interest created than upon the first day,, The reason of this I presume was ~~because an a~~ because the army of the potomac livd around ~~w~~ the capitol ~~the most~~ and many of the corps of ~~the a~~ have passed through it before ____ And ~~a~~ it always been in close communication with the people ~~whril~~ while the army of the west under Gen Sherman ~~wa~~ TI Traveling throughout the ~~wi~~ the miasmic swamps of ~~of~~ the south and fighting upon the mountain peaks ____ marching ~~through~~ for hundreds & hundreds of miles through the heart of rebelion, seldom being authenticue heard of ~~stay~~ Save in connection with ~~wit~~ taken of some rebels stronghold ____ distance ~~se~~ seems to make it more of a ~~rom~~ romance ~~Daily writers~~ Daily papers and possaic writers have seemed to notice this army more than the army of the potomac ____ those that had the good fortune to wittness the scene that transpired within the city ~~of~~ during the past ~~two~~ two days will ever remember it ____ For six hours during each day the tramp of armies were ~~heae~~ heard upon the pavements of our national capitol ____ ~~they thousands of~~ Hundreds of ~~and~~ thousands of our tried and honored with their well cleaned muskets glistening in the bright sunshine brave passed through the streets and were and were welcomed by cheers of cheers from the people ____ ~~Beautiful beaquets were~~

Beautiful wreathes and and beaquets prepared by the hands brave ladies were beautifully bestowed upon both officrs and men ____ ~~Aff~~ After the review was over the street were crowded with people and the washington cronicle say that ~~hottell~~ hottel and boarding house is full our many will have to ~~winter~~ wander about town with no place to lay their ~~his~~ head ____ many of the troops will be immediately discharged ____ ~~all of~~ while I was down to see the review I saw several of the boys that ~~belonged~~ belonged to any battery and I learned from ~~him~~ them that ~~At~~ All of those whose time expires before the next of october have got their discharges made out and they will sufer pay than if and muster them out the service they are discharging the men as fast as possible from the Hospital __ I presume if nothing happens I will be home three or four weeks ____ After the review I went to the New York State agency to the

charged bill that your state sent to me charged for national curancy as all the banks were closed and I could not use it until it was change changed ____ when I arrived

3^d

at office I saw a gutte man standing in the door ____ and ~~at~~ asked the man if that was the office of the new,, York,, state agency ____ and he replied it was __ ~~and~~ I then asked him if he could change me some new york state money and give in national ~~cu~~ currency and said step in to the office ~~of the New York state agency~~ and he would see ____ I stepped in and handed him the bill and he stepped up to a col' (I presume it was col' Goodrich ~~of~~ the NY state agent) and spoke to him and the turned to a man who writing by a desk corner of the ~~room~~ office ____ He was a pleasant looking man with a beard and ~~hair~~ hair abed fostfever years of age He asked if I was ~~in~~ a New,, York,, State man ____ and I replied yes sir ____ he ask me to step that way and I done so and he shake hand with me and reply at that he was glad to see a man ~~in~~ from his own state ~~he~~ He asked what part of the state I was from and how long I had to serve yet and I to told him ~~and~~ He said I would ~~toe~~ be discharged soon ____ He asked were I was ~~steop~~ stoping and to told him in the Emory Hospital He said that he was coming down to see us in a day or two ____ I told him that ~~New-york~~ we would be transfered to Philidelphia and ~~cu~~ he said we would not but would receive our discharge here and be paid off ____

When we had finished our conversation I returned to ~~good~~ go away he says good day and I returned the compliment as ~~was~~ went out the gentleman who I met in the doors where I came in stopd me and asked me if I ~~new~~ knew who I was speaking with I told him I did not and he told me that it Rubin,, R,, Fenton govonor of the state of New,, York,,

You may imagine that I was not a little surprised to learn that ~~govonrs~~ the govonor ~~of~~ Fenton ~~of~~ was such a pleasant and socible man ____ I shall ever remember that kind look as long as I shall ~~ar~~ remmember any thing connected with ~~mi~~ man ____ I have written now untill I am quite tired and will have to close my letter ____ I do not know wither or ~~kn~~ot I will be transfered to to the City of Philadelphia ____ There is nothing certain about it ____ I truniosded that those under medical treatment will be transfered but there is ~~to~~ no certainty of it __ there is generally all kinds of rumors in Camp and you can place no confidence any of them ____ you may write to me as soon as ~~y~~ you git this I ~~in~~ will propably receive it before I leave here ____ I shall be very glad to ~~see-ye~~ hear from you ____ ~~y~~

Your Affectionate Son,
Geo,, D,, Barringer
 Emory Hospital
 Ward E
 Washington D,, C,,

Barringer

Chestnutt Hill
Hospital, ~~May~~ June 4th, 1865

Dear Mother,

Having a little lesure time I thought I would employ it by trying to inform you where I am and how I am getting along___You will see by the heading of my letter that I have left Washington___I am now in Chestnutt Hill Hospital which is situated eight miles north of Philadelphia___It is a very large hospital and contains about two thousand and five hundred patients___It situated in a very pleasant place and close to the line of railroad which runs (?). They are discharging the men here as fast as they can There is quite a ~~num~~ number of men sent from here every day___I presume I will not get my discharge in more than month___~~we~~ they will not send us to our own state for they have not got hospitals enough to ~~to~~ accomadate the men I am enjoying first rate health at present___I have gained very fast within the first week When I left Emory Hospital I forgot my portfolio and left it under the head of my bed Consequently I have got ~~not money or postage stamps~~ no paper or envelopes or postage stamps Will you please send me five dollars___and then I can purchase them___Please send national currency for it will pass better here than New York state money You need not fear but when I will come (?) all safe___I do not think I will loss my ~~my~~ portfolio for I have ~~send~~ sent to the ward master to keep for untill I could send for it___It is very warm and pleasant and all kinds of crops look fine___not my more to write this time So I will close hoping I may hear from you soon___with as soon as you get this

Your son,

Geo. D. Barringer

Chesthutt Hill Hospital

Ward 15 Philadelphia Pa

N.B. I came in this hospital yesterday___be sure and address

Chestnutt,, Hill,, Hospital

Ward,, 15,, Philadelphia,,

Penn'

Barringer

Chestnut Hill
Hospital Ma June 6th
1865

Dear Sister

Having a few lesure moments I thought I would employ them in write to you___I am now in the Chestnut Hill Hospital which is situated ~~near~~ eight miles north of Philadelphia___I am enjoying first-rate health and I hope this may find you the same I left washington ~~when~~ four days ago___~~I expee~~ I expect I shall be home in about a month___I shall not be transferred to my own State at present for they have not got Hospitals enough to accomodate the ~~Ne~~ New York soldiers___There is about three thousand patients and consales and soldiers in this ~~hospital~~ hospital___The officers in charge are discharging the men as fast as they can make and their muster rolls___We are having very ~~pleasat~~ pleasant wheather here___the most falt to find is that it rather to warm here to be comfortable the Philadelphia market is crowd with the luxeries of the season___Such as strawberies green peas___cheries and many other things to ~~numerous to mention~~ numerous to ~~to~~ mention

I have not much news to write this time so I will close hoping to hear from you soon

You will please write as soon as you get this ~~ply~~

Please write all the news ~~for~~ With a kind regard to all enquiring friends I remain

Your affectionate Brother

Geo,, D,, Barringer,,

Chestnut Hill,, Hospital,,

Ward,, 15,, Philadelphia,,

Penn'

G.B.

Barringer

Chestnutt Hill Hospil

June 7th 1865

Dear Sister,,

I left washington 5 days ago and am now in Chestnutt hill hospital eight miles north of Philadelphia___I am enjoying first rate health,, and expect I shall be home in about a month – There is about a three thousand men in this hospital___most of them are convalescent___The officers are discharging the men in this hospital as fast as possible___They do not intend to transfer the N,Y State ~~now~~ men to their own State but will discharge them here___We are having very warm and pleasent ~~w~~ wheather here at present___This hospital is situated in a very pleasant place and is the largest & best hospital that I have seen___¥ The Philadelphia market is crowded with the luxuries of the season Such as strawberries, green peas, cheries__and many other ~~h~~ to nurmous to mention

I wrote to you yesterday and through mistake directed the letter to my Mother I thought I would write again to try and see if I ~~could~~ could do any better

I have not much news to write so I will close hoping to hear from ¥ you soon___write as soon as you get this and give me all the news___Have you heard from Uncle Lo,, F,, Peevler ~~lately~~ lately if you have please let me know where he is___With a kind regard for all inquiring friends I remain

Your ~~aff~~ affectionate Brother

Geo,, D,, Barringer

You will Direct

Chestnutt Hill Hospital

Ward,, 15,, Philadelphia

Penn

I wrote this with great haste

Barringer

Chestnutt Hill
Hospital June 11th,,
1865

Dear Mother,,

It is very warm and pleasant weather here at present___It is so warm here that it is not comfortable___the ~~erops~~ crops are looking very fine___~~to a corn~~ Corn is very small for this season of the year but this warm weather makes it grow ~~vy~~ very fast___The farmers her around here have commenced haying___Some of them commenced(?) ~~weeks ago~~ ten days ago,, I am enjoying the very best of health___And should feel rather discontented here not the benefits of a first rate library

We have an exilent library containing some very choice works in this hospital which ~~to g~~ has been furnished the good citizens of Philadelphia

The people of Phelidelphia have always been highly commended for their kindnnes to union Soldiers and they are entittled to all of the praise they receive

The citizens keep up a hospital at their ~~owr~~ own expense for sick an wounded soldiers

I was in there and remained ~~the~~ overnight ~~they f~~ when I come from Washington___They give the soldiers the very best of fare___They also keep up several saloons in the city where a soldier may go and get his meals and ~~tempusy~~ temporary lodging free of charge

We fare first rate in this hospital___It is the best government hospital that I have been in and they are so good I have no falt to find___Some find falt with the fare and say they to not get enough to eat but there cause for it,, for We are furnished enough to eat and that which is good enough___but some would complain if they were pleased in the very best of circumstances___They are discharging the men in this hospital as frst a fast as possible___They discharged six or seven hundred last week___They have ~~th duk~~ taken my name for discharging and will be discharged as soon as they ~~get~~ come to it which will be in the course of ~~w or~~ three or four ~~€~~ weeks___I have not heard from home in ~~over~~ nearly a month

I have no more to write so I will close hoping to hear from you soon

Geo. D. Barringer
Chestnutt hill hospital
Ward, 15,, Philadelphia
Penn.

Barringer

Chestnut Hill
Hospital June 14th
1865

Dear Mother,,

Your very kind and welcome letter of the of the 2nd was received day before yesterday___but have not had time to answer it until Now___I can assure you that I was glad to hear from you___the money and stamps you sent was received in___The men are being ~~transferred~~ discharged very fast from this hospital I expect mine is the course of three or four weeks I get it sooner but I doubt it___† You stated in your letter that you thought that I did not enjoy myself very well here___I ~~can you~~ can assure you that such is not the case___It is a very pleasant place ere and we ~~have~~ the priveledge of leaving the hospital grounds almost every day We have a ~~we~~ very large and exilent library from which we can obtain books s to read This library was furnished by the citizens of Philadelphia___You wished to know if we got enough t to eat, we get plenty of ~~ev~~ of food and that which is good enough for any one to eat___this is best ~~hosp~~ hospital that I have been in since I left my ~~battery~~ battery___You wanted to know whither I home by water or railway___I should come home by railway

I have ~~not~~ no more to write this time___So I will close hoping to hear from you soon

With a kind regard for all inquiring friends I remain

Your Affectionate Son

Geo,, D,, Barringer

Chestnut Hill Hospital
Ward 15, Philadelphia
Penn

Barringer

Chestnut Hill Hospital

June 29th,, 1865

Dear Sister

I have written several letters home but have not received no answer from them___I have waited very ~~patiently~~ patiently to hear from home but not one word do I hear

Annckneling that some of you are getting rather negligent___I thought I would write and ~~see~~ see if some of you would not write a few lines to me

So I am enjoying first rate health___It is very warm and pleasent ~~hear~~ here,, And farmers are getting along very well with their haying I could find plenty of work close by the hospital but I am not surely think it will pay to break into it for what little time I shall stay here

I did think that I might posibly get home by the first of July___but I shall ~~s~~ be home before the first of August___They ~~are~~ have transferred a large number of men from this hospital within the past few days___but there is considerable many here yet

I have not time to write any more but present so I will close hoping to hear from you soon___With a kind regard for all inquiring friends I remain

Your Affectionate Brother,,

Geo. D. Barringer

Chestnut Hill Hospital

Ward,, 15,, Philadelphia

Penn

Ms,, Geo,, D,, Barringer

Chestnut Hill Hospital

Ward,, 15 Philadelphia

Penn

Barringer

Chestnut Hill
Hospital July 14th,,
1865

Dear Sister,,

Your very kind & welcome letter of the 9th was received in due season___I was glad to hear from you and to learn that you are all well

I am enjoying first rate health,, You seemed to be very uneasy in regard to my getting my discharge___You must be patient___the time will soon come when I will be discharged and then I will return home

I presume I will be home by the first of August___It is very warm and pleasant here___I have not much more to write so I will close hoping I may hear from you ~~sure~~ soon___I forgot to mention that Jhorn M,, Gady,, is here in this hospital___with a kind regard for all inquiring friends I remain

Your affectionate Brother,

Geo,, D,, Barringer

Chestnut Hill Hospil

Ward 15 Philadelphia

Penn

Barringer

45 Sheridan ave
Troy, N. Y.
Aug. 15, 1899

Dear wife,

Well, Good morning. We are all well We have had our breakfast. The boys are at their normal employment. Clara washed yesterday and I went to Stowe Hill and cleared up the work there. The boys were very good and stayed at home until Clara were through washing. They and their companons then went down on Foy's Island and made a clamb chowder. Your son George was chief cook. They shipped in and bought their clams, They took eggs, onions and potatoes from the house and had a glorious time without making inwads up on everyone's cornfield or potato patch. I miss your call: "Where are those boys"? and sometimes I miss the boys

Write a line and let me know how Elizabeth is getting along with her shenmatism.

When you get _adys to come write a day before hand and Clara or I will meet you at the Station. I will send you the paper daily so that you will get the news from Troy.

Do not worry about us. We are getting along quite well and the _hange will be a rest for you.

I am coming out to make Felix a visit some time in Sept.

Hoping you had a pleasant ride through the country I _____

Your Loving

George D

Camp of 11th Battery
 Fort Wheaton Jan 8th
 1865

Dear Mother

Your kind and welcome letter of the 3rd was received ~~in~~ to day and I can assure you that I was glad to hear from you. You say that the ~~the~~ time since I left home seems long to you- It is the contarury with me The time seems very short to me-It is ~~_____~~ what the soldier suffers ~~_____~~ are his way here-but after they get in ~~cap~~ camp they enjoy themselves first rate----I have lived ~~_____~~ after since I have been to my Battery stun I have at any after place since I left home----When I left home I did not expect the Soldiers could take as much comfort as they do—Those that be-long to Batteries do not have it as hard as the infantry—The infantry have to go out and picket almost everyday-while we do not have to guard any thing but our leu_ns, caisors and guns We have to go on guard once in a week-I have been on guard but once since I have been here-The guns belong ~~___~~ to this battery is mornted in foot-Welch which is siluateers about there quarter of a mile from here—Most of the comm ~~_____~~ rs are with the guns-but I ~~_____~~ am with the Te ~~_____~~ sters at fort Y ~~_____~~ ---You asked me what the differace was between light artillery and ~~h~~ heavy artillery In light-artillery they have nothing but cannons while ~~in~~ in heavy artillery they have to do infantry duty—I like ~~infantry~~ light art much better than I do any other branch of service—We do not have any fighting here or picket firing –The place where I am is about eight miles south of Petersburg. You stated that some letters come there for me-You will please send them all to me-You stated that you had prepared some things for me-You can send them to me now and they will taste just as good as though I had received them New Years—I wrote ^you a letter a week ago last Thursday inwhich I asked for some postage stamps-and some money-you need not send the money for I think I can get along without it-I have been mustered for over four months pay and my bounty which amounts to over one hundred dollars We expect to be paid of about the ~~_____~~ 20th of this month-They did not pay ^me before I left ~~_____~~ Island but I shall get it here-The stamp and fifty cents was all in the letters safe ~~_____~~ I did tell Mr Fitzpatrck to take the stamp from any letter and use them-Y ~~_____~~ he is a man that has been very kind to me-And ~~one~~ done as I requested with my letters I would like to have you see the ~~h~~ ~~_____~~ that I live in It is built of logs and covered with c ~~_____~~ -It is about eight feet high-ten feel ~~long~~ ^wide and fifteen feet long-We have a good fire place on one side of it and plenty of wood to burn sunsequently we live quite comfortable-we have good bunks in it and plenty of blankets to cover over us to keep us warm

2nd

There is six of us that tent together-My tent mates are all nice young men and full of fun,, all of the men in camp seem to enjoy themselves first rate-We draw our rations raw and

cook them ourselves –We rather cook them ourselves than to have them cooked for us for we can do it much better than the company cooks do-I witnessed a scene a week ago last friday that I never did before and one which I care not to witness again

It was a little before noon when the troops belonging to the 1st Division of the 2nd army corp assembled to gether in front of the gallows which is situated about one hundred yards from camp are the execution of one of their comrads who had been found guilty of deserting and gaining the rank of the enemy,, -After the different regiments had been arranged so they would all have a f___ view a procession made its appearance headed by serveral officers and a band of music ^which was playing the dead march following them was an ambulance wagon acompanied by a _____body of guardsIn this wagon was seated the chaplain and the prisoner who was well built youth of medium height and about twenty ^five years of age-He was dressed in a half worn out suit of federal uniform and instens of a cap he had a white handkercheif tied around his head As they passed along the chaplain was conversing with him and he was weeping like a child,, his face was thin and _____ and his look indicitive of great mental anguish,, When they they arrived at the gallows the guards were stationed on each side,, and the prisoner _____ed to the stage which stood ___by the gallows-After his s___ sentence was read he he knell down in prayer-How miserable life must have seemed to him when he heard the drum march to his own funeral and saw the rope ____ was to be placed around his own neck-the coffin in which he was to be placed and the grave ___ where in he must sleep for time to come,, After finishing his prayers he rose and the rope was ~~pl~~ placed around his neck and then at the word of the com_____er the _prop was pulled from (I _____ed the w___y)

There is ___ if ___ that ___ to gether My ___ m___ are _____

under the platform letting him down so fast that it broke his neck,, after hanging a proper length of time he was set down and buried in b___t of the gallows-This is the seventh one who has shared the same fate at this same place-all guilty of the same crime-This may seem to be a harsh punishment but it is the only alternative If men were allowed to desert and join the enemy it would endanger the lives of the whole enemy,, There was one shot here at _____ place last friday-if you wish to send me a box you will ___ as follows

11th N.Y. Battery Light Art
 Artillery Brigade
 2nd Army Corps
 Washington
 DC

I have nothing more to write so I will close hoping to hear from you soon

Geo. D. Barringer
 11th N.Y. Battery Light Art
 Washington
 DC

