Hearts Island Aug 26th
1864

Dear Sister

Having a few leisure moments I thought I would employ them in writing 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 first rate health and I hope this may find you the same. There is a

and we commence work again at two O'clock and work till six O. clock when we quit work again and go to supper— My fare is very good— My rations are generaly larger than I can eat. In the morning we have a large peice of nice wheat bread and a large slice of fresh beef well boiled and a cup of coffee— at noon we have wheat bread a slice of beef and beef soup— at night— we have the same as in the morning.

This Island is situated about two & twenty miles south east of New York. It is about a mile wide and a mile and a half long.

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I have been informed that ~~it was~~ six months ago this Island was all covered with brush and weeds with nothing but an old shell of a house upon it. Since then most all of the Island has been cleared off and a street built on the north east end. On one side of the street there are barracks and on the other side there are buildings for the officers. There is a good side walk on each side of the street and also a nice row of trees. It is a very pleasant place here. I have been informed since I commenced writing this letter that I shall not leave the Island to-day

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

It is getting time to be about time to commence work again so I will have to close I have not received any pay yet from the Government ~~as~~ 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

Lord Ry

Mr George D. Barringer
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