

Camp 147th NY Vols

Near Petersburg VA Jan 28th/65

Dear Parents and Sisters,

Your welcomed letter of the 22nd was received last evening. found me in good health & spirits; & besides that, on guard. I was much pleased to hear from you so soon & to know that you were all in good health, though pretty well penned in by the Snow; that will probably make folks stay at home where they belong; It must be that you are having more snow this winter than [a] covering, probably enough to last for Sleighing a good while if you take good care of it; We are having what we call cold weather here now, but have no snow with it; We haven't had snow enough here this winter to hardly whiten the ground. though we have had some very heavy rains, & the ground is now frozen very hard. I have been on Picket since writing you last & bit was during a tedious rain storm. which lasted all the while I was on.

I was on guard yesterday & came off this morning. Besides this I have been on Fatigue most every day when not on other duty; we have been repairing some Forts lately, that the late rains have injured; The ground is frozen so hard now that we couldn't work at them.

We have put up some Cooks on the Picket line, so it is more comfortable Picketing now than formerly; the Shanties are made of logs, the same as in Camp except they are covered with [sic] shakes instead of tents & are not as good to shed rain though they are better than a bow house. Things are as usual with us yet nothing new of account; though there was quite a fight a few nights past, by the Gun Boats in the River; the Rebs tried to Run down to City Point with some of their Roars; but did not make out much; they lost two of their Boats, being blown up by Torpedoes, which they placed in the river for our Boats to run on; & being pressed rather hard, run into their own trap.

Burch is well & takes the Battle better than formerly; he begins to think that reason is the better hand of valor.

I rec[eived] a letter from Oscar Ray the other day; Date the 17th, next day after George's funeral. They must feel his loss deeply. I got a letter from Emory also lately, he was then at Sandy Hook & said he was in good health & spirits. I went to the 10th NY Cavalry [sic] a few days ago, to see Warren, but learned by Tubbs that he was in the Hospital at City Point on account of an accidental wound in the leg. his own Revolver went off when he was cleaning it.

You say that the "Land Office" firm has sued you on the Parisie lot. I am sorry that such is the case; though as you say they can get nothing for the lot. I am affraid [sic] that they will make you trouble; & perhaps me, to make out that the property in your care; is owned by me; I hope you will get rid of them without any expence [sic] & without causing you to prove the ownership of of [sic] things in your possession, which I fear under the present circumstances

will be rather troublesome , but be as discreet as possible with matters till Uncle Sam lets me go,
& the I will take a post in adjusting matters.

Please write as soon as this is rec[eived] & I will reply; I have nothing more to write now;
I have made out the paper spoken of inclose [sic] it; please tell me if it is Correct.

Respects to all inquiring friends; & good luck to all the rest.

Good Bye for this time.

Very affectionately your son Albert