Hart Island Nov 27th
1864

Dear Sister.

Having a little leisure time I thought I would employ it by writing 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 any thing. 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— & found every thing all safe and sound— except a bottle which I should think by the looks contained some pepper-sauce, This was broken 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 present=

The Soldiers are living on Hard Tack at present They are repairing and enlarging the bakery— and I suppose we shall have to live on it till they get that finished— Bob says he thinks that diet 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 good teeth to eat it, unless it is thoroughly soaked. There is only about 40 recruits on the island at present — 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 whether they have lost mine or not — but if they will be apt to print them when they come to give a thorough look after

I cannot say how much longer I shall remain here but I presume I shall have to remain for several weeks yet — I ~~don~~ suppose you are attending school at Milford village — How many Schoolars are their and who are they — How do you like your teacher — write and lett 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. E. 1st Battalion

Hart Island

N. Y.