

Hart Island Dec 7<sup>th</sup>

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,, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion

Hart Island

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