

5-4-1864

Letter from Marshall Blair Clason to his father

Marshall Blair Clason

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Dear Ringgold, Gen.,

May 4th 1864.

Dear Father: -

I have intended to write you several times since my return ~~from~~ camp, but have been prevented by the amount of business which had accumulated during my absence, and especially by the circumstances that since the return of Col. Dunning, he has required more of the officers than under the very lax administration of Major Hager was exacted. I like him for it.

I had an opportunity to day to procure a situation for B. R. Morton. Our Brigade Commissary, Capt. Van Danner is in need of a Clerk. He has been giving \$75.⁰⁰ a month and board, but to a good clerk, he will give \$100 per month ^{and board}. I think B. R. Morton would suit him exactly. He is a very gentlemanly man, and exceedingly easy to get along with. I think Mr. Morton would like the place, and he could manage to save enough every month to comfortably support his family, and possibly lay up a surplus. His expenses here would be very light. And having obtained a foothold here, if his qualifications entitled him to a higher position, he could work around and avail himself of his opportunity.

nity. Capt. Van Brimmer will soon be promoted, I think, and will be put on Gen. Steadman's staff, and Mr. Horton will have a very pleasant location. Capt. Van Brimmer, asked what sort of hand he wrote, if it was better than mine. I told him it was. Now let Mr. Horton be notified of this, and ~~let~~ let him write to Capt. ~~Joshua~~ Joshua Van Brimmer. A. S. 2^d Brigade, 2^d Divⁿ 14th Army Corps - Ringgold, Georgia, and ~~offer to~~ state what experience he has had as a clerk, and offer to come for ~~\$1200~~ \$100 and board per month, and I think he will receive a reply accepting his offer. I have not heard whether Capt. Edwards has communicated with him or not, or whether Mr. Horton has any employment at present?

I must write something about myself, although I am anxious to get this letter in the mail to-day. I reached Camp, April 8th, 3 days behind time, but my extension covered that, and left me 7 days to spare. Notice of my extension came too late, I suppose it was all right. I enjoyed my visit home very much. On my return ~~home~~ ^{here}, I was most kindly ^{re}ceived in Cincinnati. I think I will be able to commence ^{business} there under auspices the most favorable.

I received my coat. It suits me exactly. It is a splendid coat. I much prefer it to that tight one which was first made for me. I am now very comfortably provided for in clothing

and in all other respects. x x x I have again been detailed as Judge Advocate. But the Court has now temporarily adjourned ^{owing} to the movement of troops. I had an offer this morning to be made acting Judge Advocate on Gen. Davis' staff. I declined the appointment inasmuch as it would put me out of the line of promotion, and I declined it on other grounds, such as have always influenced me, when anything was proposed which required me to leave my Regiment.

What is the state of affairs in reference to you and Mr. King's partnership concerns. Have you brought matters to a focus. ^{Am} mine and I will soon have enough money to pay for our share without borrowing any money. I expect to be paid soon, and I think I will be able to send home \$600.00 provided I can collect the balance of the debt which Mr. Van owes me. I presume Annie will send this to you, provided she has not need for it, and from what she says I think she has not?

The troops are beginning to concentrate for a movement against the enemy. Our corps is now at Ringgold and will probably move on the rebels through the Gap at this place. The enemy is just in front of us, and daily skirmishes occur between the cavalry of the two parties. Gen. Kilpatrick, a fine man commands the Cavalry here, and is a good officer. We will move on the enemy in strong force, and under able Generalship, and I hope we will be able to crush all opposition. There is the utmost confidence among the troops

I hope this campaign will end the war in this quarter. I will
try to do my duty, and will cause you to be informed of the result
as far as myself is concerned ~~as~~ as soon as possible after the en-
gagement.

I am well and in excellent spirits. My ~~kind~~ love to Mother,
George and Elouetta. My kindest regards to Mr. & Mrs. Carter and all
my friends. I hope mother is getting well -

Your son
M. B. Blason

Near Ringgold, Geo.,
May 4th 1864

Dear Father: —

I have intended to write you several times since my return to camp, but have been prevented by the amount of business which had accumulated during my absence, and especially by the circumstance that since the return of Col. Banning he has required more of the officers than under the very lax administration of Major Yager was exacted. I like him for it.

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I am well and in excellent spirits. My love to mother, George and Floretta. My kindest regards to Mr. and Mrs. Carter and all my friends. I hope mother is getting well.—

Your son
M. B. Clason