3-19-1862

Letter from Thomas S. Armstrong to Francis P. Porter

Thomas S. Armstrong

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/harvey-letters

Part of the Military History Commons, Social History Commons, and the United States History Commons

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/harvey-letters/60

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Harvey Letters (All) at Digital Commons @ OWU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Harvey Collection Letters by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ OWU. For more information, please contact earutigel@owu.edu.
Up the Tennessee River, In Camp, Mar. 19
Yr. Gen. Woods Division Tenn.

Dear Frank,

I write to you once more. Last night the mail came I got no letters but I knew we expect one letter or an order at any rate. I feel pretty comfortable at present. We have just eaten our dinner of crack and coffee. We also had fresh boiled beef & pork with crackers in it. Last night our regiment landed & pitched tents on a hill overlooking the river. Our boys cleared away the light timber. We fixed our tent nicely. It rained all night but our tent kept the wet off. This morning the sun arose & began to show his intense rays on us. But it is not here as it was in Ohio. The boys are busy with the kitchen operations. We are making ready for a movement hence where near in Kordar Co. Tenn. we went up within 10 miles of State of Missouri we are on
We have a nice refreshing stream of water running close to camp clear & tempting. I find Spencer has got a discharge to leave for home as he is unfit for service. Some of our boys are a little penniless but they are recovering. B. W. is as hearty as you please. He stands the hardships. Finally Bob Hansen. Died with me now. He is first rate to the sick. The country looks finely here. I showed that the soil is good. Recently day I saw a dainty girl having 70 lbs. of young children what girls tend her charge & bed & she would laugh & answer questions about them saying them this one is that one belonged to. The people are scared her about as they think we are going to plunder & others are not so foolish. We have plenty to eat. But other awful crackers this one for some of your cakes & pies & chicken. Uncle Sam ought to give us some light bread then we would be happy.
After have I all those nice things you have often brought on your lot at home. But I hope the time well soon come when this war will close then I can see you & all my friends at home. Well I must close you must write to me all the news from home. When you see our folks tell them to write to me. The news also to direct here letter. Tennessee P.O. canvass Mc Daggard (Co B) 78th Reg O.V. — Well you must pray for us boys that are soldiersly. I am sure we need all to sustain us. God Bless you all is my pray. Remember me kindly to all your folks your father & mother. My hope is of a good class now. I long to set to I write with a pencil. Farewell for the Present.

Yours as ever

Thomas S. Armstrong
March 19, 1862

Up the Tennessee River, In Camp Mar 19

Wed. Gen Woods Division Tenn

Dear Frank

I write to you once more. Last night, the mail came. I got no letters but I know or expect our letters are on another boat. I feel pretty comfortable at present. We have just eaten our dinner of crackers & hot coffee & we also had fresh boiled beef & soup with cracker in it. Last night or Regt landed and pitched tents on a hill overlooking the River. Our boys cleared away the light timber & we fixed our tents nicely. It rained all night but our tent kept the wet off.

This morning the sun arose & began to pour his intense rays on us. O but it is hot here as harvest with us up in Ohio. The boys are busy with the kitchen operations. We are here making for a movement somewhere. We are in Hardin Co. Tenn. We went up another 2 miles of Slate of ______. We are on the left bank of the Tennessee. Savannah is the county seat. We cannot tell what is going on in the rest of the world hardly as we get no news of importance. Our men are improving greatly in health, the cool woods breezes seem to revive exhausted nature. We came from Ft. Henry here on the steamboat "H Chouteau"(?). Our journey was without any accident whatever. The boys appear anxious to meet the enemy. A great many rumors are prevalent in camp about the enemy. They say Beaureguard is about 17 miles above here, but I don't know as rumor is rife. You will get the news before we do of any movement. We have been changed to several Brigades. Now we are with Col James Wood's of Licking Co. of the 76th O.V.I.

I tell you these cool breezes feel good and refreshing that blow through these trees. These trees are like yours in Ohio. We have a nice refreshing stream of water close to camp clear & ______. I find Spencer Ships has got a discharge as he is unfit for service. Some of our boys are a little unwell, but they are recovering. Geo. W. is as hearty as you please. He stands the hardships finely. Bob Hanson tents with us now. He is first rate to the sick.

The country looks finely here and the soil is good. Yesterday, I saw a darkey girl having 7 or 8 young children, white girls, under her charge & O but she would laugh & answer questions about them saying whom this one & that one belonged to. The people are scared about us. They think we are going to plunder etc. Others are not so foolish. We have plenty to eat & But O these awful crackers, oh! for some your cakes & fries & chicken. Uncle Sam ought to give us some light bread. Then we would be happy.

Often have I ate those nice things you have often brought on your table at home. But I hope the time will soon come when this war will close then I can see you and all my friends at home. Well I must close. You must write me all the news from home. When you see our folks, tell them to write the news. Also to direct their letters: Tennessee River, care Col M.D. Leggett Co. B 78th O.V.I. Well you must pray for us boys who are soldiering & I am sure we need all to sustain us. God bless you all is my prayer. Remember me kindly to all your folks, your Father & Mother. My paper is of poor class now and my ink out so I write with pencil. Fare well for the present.
Yours as ever.

Thomas S. Armstrong