


5-9-1862

Letter from George W. Porter to Francis P. Porter

George W. Porter

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Camp Leggett, 10 Miles South east of Corinth, ^{Miss.}

May 9th, 1862,

Dear Sister:

After a short delay (which was caused by our moving), I resume my pen for purpose of once more addressing you, a few lines. Telling you of our whereabouts, (Grant's) since I last wrote to you we have had a rather unpleasant time tramping through the mud & Rain. It is not an unusual occurrence for me to travel all day in the Rain & then at night to sleep in it, notwithstanding all this, thank God, I am well & hearty. I have been ever since I left, one of our boys died last eve, over at the old camp. This makes three out of our company, their names are as follows, Andrew Dickson, James Thompson of Nashport, & John Weaver of Putnam. I find a sick man stands a slim chance in the army. All I ask is my health, I don't fear their bullets. We started from Pittsburgh Landing, or Shiloh Plains, last Sabbath (5th Apr.) It was raining when we started & continued so all night. The Captain & I fixed down our bed when night came & during the night, the Rain came down in torrents, when I awoke the water was running under me and down into my boots. I soon hustled from there, (think I this is more than I bargained for.)

and I took Roost on a log, the remainder of the night.
I kept dry as I had a good gum blanket. Tell Father I take
good care of myself, have stood the trip so far, as well as any
other man in the Regt. I feel thankful. We are now detached
from our ^{Brigade} Regt. watching a bridge against Rebel Cavalry, we
have the most lovely Camp you ever saw, we are situated in
a beautiful grove, some distance above the surrounding Country
the Atmosphere appears pure & healthy. Our boys are all in fine
spirits. Lump is still here, will remain until after the battle
at Corinth, which will come off soon, I suppose we will
have to stay here until after the battle. I would as leave go
and do my part there, I suppose if I play my part here, it
will be as much honor as there, I am here to obey orders, and
this is all that is required. Capt. Chandler has a horse, saddle
& bridle. I captured a very fine horse while out on picket the
other night. Springer keeps him for me. I take a ride when
I please. The Aft. invited me to take a ride with him. Yester-
day, we did not get off, on account of business. I find I have
more friends than I had any idea of. Esq. Therrard is as hearty
as I ever saw him, feels well & appears to enjoy himself. Send his
love to you all, you warned me as regards the use of profane
language. I beg leave to inform you that I am guilty of no
such a dirty practice, as I will have to write immediately
after the battle, which will be soon, I will close for the present.

give my love to the little boys & girls, tell them I often think
of them, & the many pleasant hours spent in their Society. I
imagine I see myself once more, seated at the fireside, with all
gathered around me, to hear me give a description of my adven-
tures. with what pleasure I will relate all I have seen &
experienced, give my love to Father & Mother. Receive a goodly portion
for yourself. Also remember me to Huldock. I wonder why Mother does
not write to me, she never has even sent me one word, either written
by herself or any of you, I would like to hear from you all. Chisholm
did you hear from Johnny? I have written to him. Recd. no ans.
If I knew with what division of the Army he is connected, I could
hear from him. Can't you find out & let me know, I wish I
could hear from him. You must persuade him to return to
his home, which I hope he will, as soon as his three months
are up, tell him I have written to him, he certainly knows
where to write to me, tell Joe, to bet high on the war,
keep Lovel in good better, did Father get my money from
Petwin? I hope he will put it in safe hands. J. W. A. Gillespie
sends his love to you all, give ^{my love} to Bill & Polly, all enquiring
friends. Your sincere brother,

G. W. Porter

Direct to G. W. Porter Co. B. Pittsburgh Landing Tenn. River Tenn.
Care of M. D. Leggett Col. 78th Regt. O. V. I.
3 Brigade, 3 Division, Army of the Tennessee.

[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is illegible due to fading and bleed-through.]



BE JUST AND FEAR NOT.



Miss F. P. Porter
Hopewell
Muskingum County
Ohio



May 9, 1862

Addressed to Miss F.P. Porter

Hopewell Muskingum County

Ohio

Camp Leggett, 10 miles southeast of Corinth, Tenn

May 9th, 1862

Dear Sister,

After a short delay (which was caused by our moving), I resume my pen for purpose of once more addressing you a few lines telling you of my whereabouts. Frank, since I last wrote to you, we have had a rather unpleasant time tramping through the mud & rain. It is not unusual occurrence for me to travel all day in the rain & then at night to sleep in it, notwithstanding all this. Thank God, I am well & hearty. I have been ever since I left. One of our boys died last eve. over at the old camp. This makes three out of our company. There names are as follows: Andrew Dickson, James Thompson of Nashport, & John Weaver of Putnam, I find a sick man stands a slim chance in the army. All I ask is my health. I don't fear their bullets.

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We are situated in a beautiful grove some distance above the surrounding county where the atmosphere appears pure and healthy. Our boys are all in fine spirits. Sump is still here, will remain until after the battle at Corinth which will come off soon. I suppose we will have to stay here until after the battle. I would as leave go and do my part there. I suppose if I play my part here, it will be much honor as there. I am here to obey orders this is all that is required.

Capn Chandler has a horse, saddle, & bridle. I captured a very fine horse while out on Picket the other night. Springer keeps him for me. I take a ride when I please. The Adjt invited me to take a ride with him. Yesterday he did get off on account of business. I find I have more friends than I had any idea of.

Esq Sherrard is as heavy as I ever saw him, feels well & appears to be enjoying himself. Sends his love to you all. You warned me as regards the use of profane language. I beg leave to inform you that I am guilty of no such dirty practice. As I will have to write immediately after the battle which will be soon, I will close for the present.

Give my love to the little boys & girls and tell them I often think of them & the many pleasant hours that I spent in their society. I imagine I see myself once more, seated at the fireside with all gathered around me to hear me give a description of my adventures. With what pleasure I shall relate all that I have seen & experienced. Give my love to Father & Mother. receive a goodly portion for yourself. Also remember me to Huldah. I wonder why Mother don't write to me. She never has even sent me one word, either written herself or any of you. I would like to hear from you all.

Oh, when did you last hear from Johnny? I have written to him. Recd no ans. If I knew with what division of the Army he is connected, I could hear from him. Can't you find out & let me know. I wish I could hear from him. You must persuade him to return to his home which I hope he will as soon as three months are up. Tell him I have written to him. He certainly knows where to write me. Tell Joe to bet high on the war. Keep Lorrel in good kilter. Did Father get my money from Potwin I hope he will put it in safe hands. J.W.A. Gillespie sends his love to you all. Give my love to Bill & Polly. All enquiring friends. Your sincere brother.

G.W. Porter

Direct to G.W. Porter Co. B Pittsburgh Landing Tennessee River Tennessee

in care of M.D. Leggett Col. 78th Regt O.V.I.

3 Brigade 3 Division Army of the Tennessee