

8-2-1862

Letter from Robert Hanson to Francis P. Porter

Robert Hanson

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Hanson, Robert, "Letter from Robert Hanson to Francis P. Porter" (1862). *Harvey Collection Letters*. 93.
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Polivar Tennessee

August 2^d, 1862.

Friend Frank.

I received yours of the 15 of June on the last day of July, and hasten to answer the same. George was out on Pickett and did not return until to day and I wanted to see him before I wrote to you. he rec'd a letter from you and one from Starkey and two from Gratiot on the same day. My letter was so long on the road that I came to the conclusion that you & I had concluded to marry and stop writing to common soldiers. George is well and has been and is always ready for any duty and whenever called on Capt. Chandler and George gets along very well together they are warm friends. Lt Munson puts on airs sometimes but George can take his part when necessary. he done it the night that Co. B left Purdy. You are I presume aware of the fact that George was to be second Lieutenant of the Co. when it was first organized. Munson rec'd the commission with this proviso that if there was a vacancy he was not to be promoted ^{over} George. after Chandler left he took command of the Co. and George was subordinate, on the march that night he came down on him and told him he was not in his place I knew he was and so did George. he said he was in his place Munson said he was not George called him a liar Munson

said he would put another man in his place. George just let him know that he was not to be walked over rough shod by a cat. Mason asked pardon I do not like the little upstart. I glad to hear that your Brother has arrived safe at home. I would love to attend meeting at your chapel but am afraid that it will be along before I will have that pleasure. I do not think George will resign but he would love to see you all before you went west. I am done having long marches now we are on the Rail Road and when we do march we go in the cars. The Memphis affair was brilliant. I hope that ere long we may hear of the fall of Richmond.

I am under the impression that I will not spend the 4th of July in old Muskingum. I was sorry but could not help it. I offered twenty dollars for leave of absence 30 days it was no go. I am often disappointed the ~~more~~ ^{most} is when I do not receive any letter. I am glad to know that you spend your sabbaths in so pleasant way. it is very pleasant to listen to a good sermon and also to attend sabbath school.

I do not think there is any harm in writing letters to friends on the sabbath. You give me a great amount of pleasure by assuring me that I have friends in old Muskingum. What would this world be without them.

The reason that I gave I & J your picture was this. I showed to George and he asked me where I got it I told him you gave it to me to give to a friend

but did not tell him who that friend was. he judge it was I & J and then I let I & J see it his whole countenance changed he asked me for it and I knew that he thought more of you than he did of all the ladies in Ohio and he was sick all the time and it would if ^{he} had it do him so much good. I gave it to him. please do not ask him for it. it would hurt his feelings. he prizes it very highly and the original more. that is the truth. I do not blame him do you! I wish you could stay in Ohio until the war is over I would call and see you & have a talk with you and meddle and get an introduction Miss Sarah Willey. if I do not get to see you before you go why just remember that I would, but the cause in which I am engaged says you cannot

It is very warm here at the present time I have eaten peaches until I am tired of them Watermelons are all the go now Green corn is most too hard. Mrs Leggett Miss M. Kelly Lt Leuns wife Capt. Warlans wife are here enjoying themselves I see that Col Leggett has some critics do not believe a word of it he has done all he could for the men and if he had drilled them a little more I think it would have been better for the men. The men can blame no one but themselves in a great many instances I have seen them sick as they were with the diarrhoea eating candy and strong cheese and greasy crackers and eating a mess that would turn the stomachs of a certain

great numbers were sick and could get no medicine
and Col Leggett wrote to Ohio for some and offered to pay
for it himself but could not get it. Capt Wiles
bought 100 loaves of bread and sent it to the Regt so
many loaves to his own company and the balance to be
sold to the boys at the same price that he paid. the boys
had not the money and Col Leggett paid the bill nine
dollars and some cents out of his own pocket. The man
that would willfully and maliciously slander Col Leggett is
in my humble opinion no man but the meanest carr
Every thing is quiet on the Watcher,

We are waiting Macanbai like
for something to turn up. there is no war news and
I think that we will rust out if we do not soon
hear of a battle and a victory. George says he is all
right and sends his love to all. My kindest regards
to your family. also to Almeda, and Miss F Willey
My kindest regards and best wishes to you and hope
that you may always have a pleasant time. I wish you had
one of my watermelons they are so good. If you have an
opportunity send me a couple handkerchiefs I have
not one. Mine are all buried with the boys at
Shiloh. I must now close. Farewell May
Heavens blessings rest upon you Your Friend
Robert Hanson

August 2, 1862

Addressed to Miss Frank P. Porter

Hopewell, Muskingum County, Ohio

Bolivar Tennessee

August 2d, 1862

Friend Frank,

I received yours of 1s June on the last day of July and hasten to answer the same. George was out on Picket and did not return until today and I wanted to see him before I wrote to you. He received a letter from you and one from Starkey and two from Gratiot on the same day. My letter was so long on the road that I came to the conclusion and T S had concluded to marry and stop writing to common soldiers.

George is well and has been and is always ready for any duty and whenever called on. Capt Chandler and George get along very well together. They are warm friends. Lt Munson puts on airs sometimes but George can take his part when necessary. He done it the night Co. B left Purdy. You are aware of the fact that George was to be second lieutenant of the Co. when it was first organized Munson received the commission with this proviso that if there was a vacancy he was not to be promoted over George. After Capn Chandler took command of the Co. and George was subordinate. On the march that night, he came down on him and told him he was not in his place. I know he was and so did George. He said he was in his place. Munson said he was not. George called him a liar. Munson said he could put another man in his place. George just let him know that he was not to be walked over rough shod by a brat & Munson asked pardon. I do not like the little upstart. I am glad to hear that your brother has arrived safe at home. I would love to attend meeting at your chapel but am afraid that it will be along before I have that pleasure.

I do not think George will resign but he would love to see you all before you went west. I am done having long marches now. Now we are on the rail road and when we do march we go in the cars.

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The reason I gave T S your picture was this. I showed to George and he asked me where I got it. I told him you gave it to me to give to a friend but did not tell him who that friend was. He judged it was T S and then I let T S see it, his whole countenance changed. He asked me for it and I knew that he thought more of you than he did of all the ladies in Ohio and he was sick all the time and it would if he had it do him so much good. I gave it to him. Please do not ask him for it. It would hurt his feelings. He prizes it highly and the original more. That is the truth. I do not blame him, do you?

I wish you could stay in Ohio until the war is over. I should call and see you and have a talk with you and Meda and get an introduction Miss Sarah Willy. If I do not get to see you before you go, why just remember that I would but the cause in which I am engaged says you cannot.

It is very warm here at the present time & I have eaten peaches until I am tired of them. Watermelons are all the go now. Green corn is most too hard. Mrs Leggett, Miss McNally, Lt. _____'s wife, Capn Harlan's wife are all here enjoying themselves. I see that Col Leggett has some vilifiers, do not believe a word of it. He has done all he could for the men and if he had drilled them a little more, I think it would have been better for the men. The men can blame no one but themselves in a great many instances. I have seen them sick as they were with diarrhea, eating candy and strong cheese and greasy crackers, eating a mess that would turn the stomach of a certain bird.

Great numbers were sick and could get no medicine and Col. Leggett wrote to Ohio for some and offered to pay for it himself but could not get it. Capt Wiles brought 100 loaves of bread and sent it to the Regt, so many loaves to his own Co., and the balance to be sold to the boys at the same price he paid. The boys had not the money and Col. Leggett paid the bill, nine dollars and some cents out of his own pocket. The man that would willfully and maliciously slander Col Leggett is in my humble opinion no man but the meanest cur. Everything is quiet on the Hatchee.

We are waiting macauber like for something to turn up. There is no war news and I think we will rust out if we do not soon hear of a battle and a victory. George says he is all right and sends his love to all. My kindest regards to your family. Also to Almeda and Miss S. Wiley. My kindest regards and best wishes to you and hope that you may always have a pleasant time. I wish you had one of my watermelons, they are so good. If you have an opportunity, send me a couple handkerchiefs, I have not one. Mine are all buried with the boys at Shiloah. I must now close. Farewell. Heavens blessings rest upon you. Your friend,

Robert Hanson