


8-7-1862

Letter from George W. Porter to Francis P. Porter

George W. Porter

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Bohwa ^u Tennessee Aug. 7th. 1862.

Sister Frank:

I received a few lines from you day before yesterday. was as usual pleased to hear from you & learn that you were all enjoying good health. Well Frank I suppose you will soon be off for the West. I wish I were there to make the trip with you. how pleasant it would be. But I feel that duty calls in another direction. And for a more holy cause. Therefore I hearken to the call and go elsewhere, Oh! how I would like to meet you all at the old Homestead, once more ere you leave. but this is impossible. I hope John will stay with Father & assist him until I return. Tell him if he will. that when I come home, he & I will go in Partnership, I won't say what business we will follow. just whatever seems to pay best at that time. For I don't want him to go into the army. I know he can not stand soldiering. It takes old George for this. I feel as well and hearty as ever I did in all my life. Should I not feel thankful I certainly should. Kind Providence has favored me in every respect. While stout & hearty men. have sickened & died at my side. I am yet spared. This looks to me as if I had praying friends at home. I know it can be nothing. I have done within myself. I still live in hopes of being spared to see you all once more. And mingle with you as in time past. What happy times those were. I knew not how to appreciate those times. I have learned a lesson. we know not too a Brothers or Sisters love until we are once parted. You wished me

to write you a letter that you might have it printed. I
Suppose I could, had I the time to spare. It would take
some time to get a letter up in style. I have not time to
spend. I you know try & stick as close to my duty as possible.
I have the good will of this entire Regt. Officers & men,
also their Confidence. This I wish to Retain. I intend if I
fall to leave a name that my friends will not be ashamed
of. If aside from my duty I get time I may write a letter
for the Courier. But never publish a letter of mine without
I especially Request it. You spoke of being at the Captains. he
has told me all about it. You certainly had a good time.
I had concluded to try & obtain a position in another Regt. But
have abandoned the Idea entirely. I feel confident that I will
be 1st. Lieut. of this Company ere many months have flown.
I will say no more of this at present. I wrote to Grandmother
Yesterday. Worthington has played Thunder. he had better come to
war & put that off until Peace was restored. I think him foolish
anyhow. If I was a young lady. I would marry no man until
he had made a pretty good start in the world. That is in worldly
affairs. It may be she had the dimes. I will ^{not} ask the hand of
any young lady, until I see a chance of making a Respectable
living for her. If I don't for myself. I alone suffer. This
thing of getting married. before you know what you are doing
is very wrong. Remember the advice I gave you. I want to
write a few lines to Mother & send with this. They're I will close.
Egy. is going home to recruit. He can tell you all news. Direct to
Bolivar. My love to you all. I remain as ever your affectionate brother
G. W. Porter.

August 7, 1862

Bolivar Tennessee Aug 7th 1862.

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G.W. Porter