

11-24-1862

Letter from Robert Hanson to Francis P. Porter

Robert Hanson

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Frank
the Major
let to let
these workers
get

please excuse
this corner
the boys bathed
me so that I
made a mistake
No #1

Tell Medd that I want
an imitation to her wedding
Bob

Head Quarters 2^d Brigade
3^d Division La Grange Nov 24, 62

Friend Frank

After patiently waiting for a letter from, Clinton. I was pleased last night to know that my patience was rewarded with the receipt of a letter from you. Since my last we have moved some 23 miles and routed the rear guard of the Rebels from Holly Springs and took possession of said place. have since learned that our advance have fell back some distance why I know not but I think for the purpose of making a more decided move and catching the enemy napping, rest assured that before the holidays that this war in the South west will be over our plans are progressing and when they are fairly understood we will then push forward to victory.

The weather is splendid I have never seen it equalled in Ohio for this time of year the air is as balmy as May the birds sing and all nature is lovely. true we have had a very little cold weather with snow but passed away as a dream. I know that you if you were here would enjoy it very much La Grange is a beautiful place its Colleges Seminaries and Churches are large and built in the modern stile. Surrounded with choce shrubbery and flowers of every description in there season. Private residence are built in the same stile and at one time the southern aristocrat flourished as the green bay tree

Grand Junction 3 miles east is the depot of the contractors have a good time along with them. I hope I will.
and the number there now runs into thousands and increasing every day. they come in from all parts of Mississippi and Tennessee. they appreciate the Presidents proclamation and are availing themselves of its benefits. A man that will ^{not} coincide and admit the justice of that proclamation is a traitor both to his God & Country. I am no McClellan man, but I'm for the man that will push this war through no matter who he is or where he comes from if McClellan & Buell and Pitt John Porter. had been remove long ago the army of the Potomac would have been in Richmond & Braggs army in Kentucky would have been whipped and nearly all of them taken prisoners. We are now having a good time and plenty of it review after review Col Leggett with his Ohio Brigade taking the lead and getting the praise for the best drilled Brigade out. then we have our courses of amusements ball not a mid night bawl but a regular old fashion game of town ball reminding us very much of school boy days days that are passed and gone but not forgotten then we have our social gatherings for the purpose of talking of old times, our enjoyments at home what they will be if we are so fortunate as to return. the receptions good old fashioned dinners smiling faces and warm greetings. I tell you such thoughts and social chats dispell the gloom that sometimes hang over us I love to hear the Boys talk about it. If ever I get back I will try and have a good time too. The Boys say that I must go home with them and I will

One month from to morrow is Christmas. Oh; how I would like to spend it in the north & by the way it would give me great pleasure to accept of your kind invitation to spend the Holydays with you along with George. The prospect is not very bright. Cannot get furlough unless we are sick and likely to die, or had some influential citizen to get one from the President he is the only man that can grant that request.

George says that would love to come but the same reasons I fear will deprive him of the pleasure of seeing you. another reason we will have to pay our way. & money is low the treasury of the 78th is bankrupt, It is now five months since we have received any pay and it may be that we will not get any until February. Do you think the prospect very bright. I guess that we had better rest easy and when the Old Flag once more floats over the states that have rebelled then our work will be done. & those of us that are spared can then enjoy the presence of our friends with a good grace knowing that they have done their duty. George said he would have laughed if he had seen you standing in the rain & mud. I certainly would have enjoyed it. if had been there. George says Meda got sloughed. not only the wagon but she herself so you see you are not the only one that got in the slough of despond. I hope that your future may be such roads that are smooth and clear of sloughs & thorns. I wrote to J. I about the time that he received

how easy in affluence it is to forget good friends.

as for Miss Meda I do not think it would be any use for me to get a notion of her if I do wear blue pants. I think that she if every thing works well is destined to be your sister. Letters are frequent from Menona. You know that I am Brigade Post-Master. I generally get Georges letters and hand them to him. It does me good to see his face when I hand him a letter with that Post Mark. When he gets a letter from home he always tells me of the health of the Family and there kindest regards to me Thank you and your family for their remembrances. Yes I remember that Christmas dinner did I not partake of it. I thank you again for my share of it. Frank ever since I saw your mother there. sitting on the stream. You remember that she told me to help myself as long as it was there that is the good thing she brought although I only had the pleasure of seeing her but three times I would know her among a thousand. It has always been a source of pleasure to me to look back & think of the kindness shown to me a poor miserable shoemaker by those who had sons & Brother in Co. B. of the 78th US. Yes do take the Courier its will be a pleasure to read the Locals & an occasional letter from Gillespie Hanson & others, more especially the others. Frank all the letters receive I send them to Ohio sealed up that I survive & yet there I can pass many happy hours reading old letters. Please write long letters and many of them. I would miss your letters very much if you was to stop writing. I would write you a long letter but my time to day is taking up with business that cannot be put off. The next I will write a longer one My kindest regards to your Father & Mother & the Family in general and also to Miss Frank tell her letters are good very good and I cannot do very well without, sooner do without my coffee and that is impossible. May Heaven bless you
Frank for your kindness
Your Friend R. Hanson



Miss Frances P. Porter.

Clinton Dewitt Co

Illinois.



November 24, 1862

Head Quarters 2d Brigade

3d Division La Grange Nov. 24, 62

Friend Frank

After patiently waiting for a letter from Clinton, I was pleased last night to know that my patience was rewarded with the receipt of a letter from you. Since my last, we have moved some 28 miles and routed the Rear Guard of the Rebels from Holly Springs and took possession of said place. Have since learned that our advance have fell back some distance, why I know not but think it for the purpose of making a more decided move and catching the enemy napping. Rest assured that before the Holydays that this war in the Southwest will be over. Our plans are progressing and when they are fairly understood, we will then push forward for victory.

The weather is splendid. I have never seen it equalled in Ohio for this time of year. The air is as balmy as May. The birds sing and all nature is lovely. True we have had very little cold weather with snow but passed away as a dream. I know that you, if you were here, would enjoy it very much. LaGrange is a beautiful place. Its colleges, seminaries, and churches are large and built in the modern stile. Surrounded with choice shrubbing and flowers of every description in there season. Private residences are built in the same style and at one time, the Southern aristocrats flourished as the green bay tree.

Grand Junction, 3 miles east, is the depot of the contraband and the number now runs into the thousands and increases every day. They come in from all parts of Mississippi and Tennessee. They appreciate the President's proclamation and are availing themselves of its benefits. A man that will not coincide and admit the justice of that proclamation is both a traitor to God & country. I am no McClelland man but I am for the man that will finish this war through no matter who he is or where he comes from. If McClelland & Buell and _____ John Porter had been removed long ago the army of the Potomac would have been in Richmond and Bragg's in Kentucky would have been whipped and nearly all of them taken prisoner.

We are now having a good time and plenty of it, review after review, Col. Leggett with his Ohio brigade taking the lead and getting the praise for being the best drilled Brigade out. The we have our sources of amusements: ball, not a midnight bawl, but a regular old fashioned game of town ball reminding us very much of school boy days, days that are passed and gone but not forgotten. Then we have our social gatherings for the purpose of talking of old times, our enjoyments at home, what they will be if we are fortunate as to return. The receptions, the good old fashioned dinners, smiling faces and warm greetings. I tell you such thoughts and social chats to dispel the gloom that sometimes hangs over us. I love to hear the boys talk about it. If I ever get back, I will try and have a good time too. The boys say that I must go home with them and I will have a good time along with them. I hope I will. One month from tomorrow is Christmas. Oh! how I would like to spend it in the north and by the way it would give me great pleasure to accept your kind invitation to spend the Holydays with you along with George. The prospect is not very bright. Cannot get furloughed unless we are sick and likely to die or had some influential citizen to get one from the President. He is the only man that can grant that request.

George says he would love to come but the same reasons I fear will deprive him of the pleasure of seeing you. Another reason, we will have to pay our way & money is low. The treasury of the 78th is bankrupt. It is now five months since we have received any pay from it and it may maybe that we will not get any until February. Do you think the prospect very bright. I guess that we had better rest easy and when the Old Flagg once more floats over the states that have rebelled then our work will be done & those of us that are spared can enjoy the presence of our friends with a good grace, knowing that they have done there duty. George says he would have laughed if he had seen you standing in the rain and mud. I certainly would have enjoyed it if had been there. George says Meda got sloughed(?), not only the wagon but she herself. So you see you are not the only one that got in the slough of despond(?). I hope that your future may be such roads that are smooth and clear of sloughs & thorns. I wrote to T.S. about the time he received how easy it is to forget poor friends as for Miss Meda.

I do not think it would be any use for me to get a notion of her if I do wear blue pants. I think she if everything works well is destined to be your sister. Letters are frequent from Menona. You know that dam Brigade Post Master. I generally get George's letters and hand them to him. It does me good to see his face when I hand him a letter with that post mark. When he gets a letter from home he allways tells me of the health of the family and there kindest regards to me. Thank you and your family for their remembrances. Yes, I remember that Christmas dinner did I not partake of it. I thank you again for my share of it. Frank, ever since I saw your mother there, setting on the straw, you remember she told me to help myself as long as it was there is the good things she brought although I only had the pleasure of seeing her but three times. I would know her among a thousand. It has allways been a source of pleasure to me, the kindness shown to me a poor miserable shoemaker by those who had sons and brothers in Co. B of the 78th OVI.

Yes, do take the Courier. It will be a pleasure to read the locals & an occasional letter from Gillespie, Hanson, & others, more especially the others.

Frank, all the letters I receive I send them to Ohio sealed up that if I survive & get there I can pass many happy hours reading old letters. Please write long letters and many of them. I would miss your letters very much if you was to stop writing. I would write you a long letter but my time today is taking up with business that cannot be put off. The next I will write a longer one. My kindest regards to your Father & Mother & the family in general. And allso to Miss Frank. Tell her letters are good, very good and I cannot do very well without, sooner do without my coffee and that is impossible. May Heaven bless you Frank for your kindness.

Your friend, R. Hanson

Tell Meda I want an invitation to her wedding.

Frank tell Meda not to let those suckers get - please excuse this corner the boys bothered me so I made a mistake.