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12-8-1862

## Letter from George W. Porter to Francis P. Porter

George W. Porter

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Dear Fister Frank: As I have not heard from you for some time. I will with a few lines thinking you will be any. cous to learn as to my whereabouts. I have written to ane from wery stop. ping place time we started whon this march, I work Last from Abbeing The next morning after I wrole, we Starten for this place Distance 12 miles) and Nwas raning for all that was out, as we had a very Large train and almost an Ocean of A lillery, you may fucke how the Loads were. This was a very hard march or the men. But G. W. ir never socled. I am very hearly and feel thankful to our Divine Benefac. find I can stand the hardships of

Soldiering with any of Them. I think The Secret have about flaged out in these parts of they would only fush things in the east. This was would soon close, I think the line of the downfall of Elebellion is near a hand, I still think I will soon be fermitted to mingle with you all as in time fast and gove, Ten months day after tomorrow succe we left Gamp Gilbert, Vince frackes Bruffy by and awaits for no one, health, of This month I will have been The Service 13 mouthor I thought I would Try and get Home this winter, But as we are engaged in an achine Campaign, I can not Minh of leaving Even of I did I don't Shippy I would get to go, of nothing happens I will come Home next Spring, 2 Which the war well end by The first of April. Our Cavoby have had several pretty hard fights with the

Year quara of The Educating energy we have taken about 1000 Prisoners. and quite a minuter of Officers, Our Division is now in the advance, ben, Leagan is our commanded, I see him often. I tell you now he is a regular brich? also see Sen. Grand often He is a fine officer. Our officers all appear 20 Common and friendly. Logan is liked by all, Sen Grant Lays He has the advance and Shall keep in, This pleases us all, as soon as our train Elurus which went back after Provis ious we will fush on lowards, aren riada, The Rochs, are reported to be between here and there, of they don't leave we will give them Thunder. @ Thirds May will leave ) as near as O Can learn we are bound for Juckson This State as soon as possible. I will que you a description of Oxford. Dris a very near billage Situated on the Haitroad mining from Grand finch

Jenn, to Grennada This stale, The Residence of the How, Jacob Thompson President Buchaman's Secretary of the interior, ) is here. and find building Nis. One of our Generals is now occupying in The How A. Thomps (of course) did not await to welcome his guest. But moved Southward, His deary was found which brought to light a great many things counder with this infernal Rebellion. Drapping a great many forthern Politicians have been connected with this officer Phohe their doom will soon como, I saw Richey day before yesterday. he week well. Gay, Just came in Thad to Noh and talk with him, Ho a suces his best wishes and respects. He appion in very gove pirits, Unite The war will soon be over. I believe this is The general supposition here, I know not what you folks chink about in Do you ever hear from Sande.

I heard you was kind of Latur with Hanson. This of course and not believe. you were you and he wrote to me I would write him friendy letters. Dur you must not think of any thing for ther. I wants you to hold your head up. If you can't do better chandrisie Martrey has, Sive are ald main ale the days of your life. Have son is a frid of mine, and will do anything in his power for me. Bur to he hours he is to four of Joing Alcohy Keep this a Secret. He Spends all his carnings for Strong arink O would Tather see a gister of mine go down to the grave. than mary an interriper ale man, I expect to be home doon and then tookout for the good looking dale, The word Just came that we have over 1100 presovershere and down at Walerville they have a

hundred of them. Down The wall towards Grunada, They are Reported to be in equado in the woods. are Coming in and giving themselves up. as I cannot got anything here I want I wish you to send me a good Black nechtie. you can pur iv in a litter (a silla one) also sen metto worth of Pastage Stamps, 3 ward Hather to ger those things. any Latre the Aut, our of my money of all you have sent me and help an account of ir. I would send for some more things. Bur as we are on the more I would not he apr to ger them. Since these Directo ba Grange will clos for the present give my love to one and ale Reserve a goodly portion for yoursel, write often Oremain your offectionale Brother: G. N. Porte.

## December 8, 1862

Addressed to Miss F.P. Porter Dewitt County Clinton, Illinois

Oxford, Miss Dec 8th/62

Dear Sister Frank,

As I have not heard from you for some time, I will write a few lines thinking you will be anxious to my whereabouts. I have written home from every stopping place since we started upon this march. I wrote last from Albeville(?). The next morning after I write, we started for this place (distance 12 miles) and it was raining for all that was out and we had a very large train and almost an ocean of artillery. You may guess how the roads were. This was a very hard march on the men. But G.W. is never soiled.

I am very hearty and feel thankful to our Divine Benefactor that I am yet alive and well. I find I can stand the hardships of soldiering with any of them. I think the Secesh have about played out in these parts. If they would only finish things in the east. This war would soon close. I think the time of the downfall of the Rebellion is near at hand. I still think I will be permitted to mingle with you in time fast and gone. Ten months day after tomorrow since we left Camp Gilbert. Time passes swiftly by and waits for no one. The 26th of this month I will have been in the service 18 months. I thought I would try and get home this winter, but as we are engaged in an active campaign I cannot think of leaving. Even if I did I don't suppose I would get to go. If nothing happens, I will come home next spring.

I think the war will end by the first of April. Our cavalry have had several pretty hard fights with the rear guard of the retreating enemy. We have taken about 1000 prisoners and quite a number of officers. Our division is now in the advance. Gen. Logan is our commander. I see him often. "I tell you now, he is a regular brick." I also see General Grant often. He is a fine officer. Our officers all appear so common and friendly. Logan is liked by all. Gen Grant says "He has the advance and shall kick it." This pleases us all. As soon as our train returns which went back after provisions we will push on towards Grenada. The Rebs are reported to be between here and there. If they don't leave we will give them thunder (I think they will leave). As near as I can learn we are bound for Jackson this state as soon as possible.

I will give you a description of Oxford. It is a very neat village situated on the railroad running from Grand Junction, Tenn to Grenada this state. The residence of the Hon. Jacob W. Thompson(?) President Buchanon's Secretary of the interior is here and fine building it is. One of our generals is now occupying it. The Hon J. Thompson (of course) did not wait to welcome his guest but moved southward. His diary was found which brought light to a great many things concerned with this infernal rebellion. It appears a great many northern politicians have been connected with this officer. I hope their doom will soon come.

I saw Rickey day before yesterday. He was well. Esq. just came in. I had to stop and talk with him. He sends his best wishes and respects. He appears in very good spirits, think the war will soon be over. I believe this is the general supposition here. I know not what you folks think about it. Do you ever hear from Sump?

I heard you were kind of taken with Hanson. This of course I did not believe. If I were you and he wrote to me, I would write him friendly letters, but you must not think of anything further. I want you to hold your head up. If you can't do better than Susie Starkey has. Live as old maid all the days of your life. Hanson is a friend of mine and will do anything is his power for now. But to be honest he to fond of King Alcohol. Keep this a secret. He spends all his earnings on strong drink. I would rather see a sister of mine go down to the grave then marry an intemperate man. I expect to be home soon and then look out for the good looking gals.

The word just came that we have over 1100 prisoners here. And down at Waterville, they have a number of them. Down the road toward Grenada they are reported to be in squads in the woods and are coming in and giving themselves up. As I cannot get anything here I want, I wish you to send me a good black necktie. You can put it in a letter. (a silk one). Also send me \$1.00 worth of postage stamps & ask Father to get those things and take the \_\_\_\_\_\_ out of my money. Of all you have sent me and keep an account of it. I would send for some more things, but as we are on the move, I would not be where to get them. Send these directly to LaGrange I will close for the present, give my love to one and all. Reserve a goodly portion for yourself. Write often. Your affectionate brother.

G.W. Porter