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

George W. Porter

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**Recommended** Citation

Porter, George W., "Letter from George W. Porter to Francis P. Porter" (1864). *Harvey Collection Letters*. 123. https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/harvey-letters/123

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Hera Quarters 3 . Div. 17 . A. C. Mear Atlanda Congion Clepts. 20th. 1864. Lister Frank. a color a color I am again in the field am well & hearly. I wrote how the day of my arrival here. Which was Lalunday last. Lablath was my birth day. I feel perty de. Fromty Lip Loundo away up yonan. I hoped to spina tast birthday at home, Brit you know I could not. I helving to truck Lam and must only his orairs. " think this is of but that anation now when my den of Lewice expires. I will of possible 25 do Logcom how of I am sparce & I hope to be, I find quiles a number of our officers going home Your on leave of ahaver. But quite a mucha have resigned. Doch Goodhahe Starter this mom = ing. I Laia bur little to him. For Ifilt that I was loving one of any hest friends, while he was here I always filt that should I be deleed or wow dea. He would see That I got home, This was goin a consolation to one who expected this to heppen at almast anything, But thank End I have been

fortunate Thus far and hope Is be the Cemanian of my sime That I may return to my friends and love ones as I lift them. And may berd Speed the day when this hugodey abellion may end. I Look a liae out over our ola battle ground of the 22 mail July to day. I live you the marks of a hatter are plainty do be deen There. This very heart was made It ache at The Light that are get to be seen. 'Dead men's home are deallered over the field. Some partly Thicking up out of the ground. Others anticy bar & being richa around from place to place. This is however to think g. But aradounts to nothing in war. Fur men who mere Laken prisones on the It ma will most of them be exchanged to day. Theming I Hood have agreed to exchange what prisoners were Latur on this cantraign. and the change is being effected now. Formorrow ends the Lince. Then I Luppose we will have fighting again. I wish J. J. coula be exchanged. But for lu de desint belong to this any Threfor will not come huden This agreement. The citizen have mary all lift Alanta and gove either North a Louth. This was Themand oran. Bey The way I was with sine togget to bisit kind. Therman to day he looks finely and

appears in The herr of Spirits. Is a very sociable, frince man. and is beloved by all his tolairs. The army tun is being paia of This Suits The men. O never Low our men more healthy nor in better spirito. O think the rebelicon is on to last Jugo. A biresh is alectia ate is right of and I don't know what will be the consequence. I think there is no doubt but all will be right. How is dea Doch Madam S. Vell Jahn If he says our word to whip him good. If he gets with brouble I am with him . I have have to get him to day one word against the government. Bhar Lo O conta have down excerce, and I would have burstea his head I interind doing it yet. I ever a chance present trilly. Did gang get a School with us i taken does four School commen." I expect do be with you by Christings. But avit flatter fourselves both my coming hulie you du me. I will dera in my asignation on The 26th day of Nov, must being three years from my enlisting. And if we are not on a Campaign all will be right ! think . If we ar O well not offer to There will be a bapt commission in next mail for me. Which O will your 20 acept. I intina to come how. and my mina is made up, tomain this is accomplished I will not

be satisfica. For I have promised to come and 2 I can do to howardly I am coming. I not o will Thay I would are rather than leave the Service in dishown, when I have Line three good . I am feel That I have down my duty, when it comes my lum again. I will be reaser & willing To com Senfepose The graft will be enforced. In was to Commence gesterday. It will be done this Line, I saw a Lelegran from E. M. Lanton The Lee". I wanthe burn himan do day shating of would. ter enforced. Phiopleases The Lolairs Certain. I will close for this Line. My Dring agains to ale friends. my love do you all mite even & ghim. And attige. your operionate brother. S. M. Ontin

September 28, 1864

Head Quarters 3d Div. 17th A.C.

Near Atlanta Georgia Sept. 28th, 1864

Sister Frank

I am again in the field. Am well & hearty. I wrote home the day of my arrival here which was Saturday last. Sabbath was my birthday. I feel pretty old. Twenty-six. \_\_\_\_\_\_ away up yonder. I hoped to spend last birthday at home. But you know I could not. I belong to <u>Uncle Sam</u> and must obey his orders. I think this is of but short duration now. When my term of service expires, I will (if possible to do) \_\_\_\_\_\_ come home. If I am spared & I hope to be. I find a number of our officers going home, some on leave of absence. But quite a number have resigned. Doct Goodbrake started this morning. I said but little to him, for I felt that I was losing one of my best friends. While he was here, I always felt that should I be killed or wounded, he would see that I got home. This was quite a consolation to one who expected this to happen at almost anytime. But thank God I have been fortunate thus far and hope to be the remainder of my time. That I may return to my friends and loved ones as I left them. And may God speed the day when this ungodly Rebellion may end.

I took a ride out over our old battle ground on the 22nd of July today. I tell you the marks of battle are plainly to be seen there. My very heart was made to ache at the sights that are yet to be seen. Dead men and horses are scattered over the field. Some partially sticking up out of the ground. Others entirely bare & being kicked around from place to place. This is horrible to think of, but amounts to something in war. Our men who were taken prisoner on the 22nd will most of them be exchanged today. Sherman and Hood have agreed to exchange what prisoners were taken on this campaign and the change is being effected now. Tomorrow ends the truce. Then I suppose we will have fighting again. I wish T.S. could be exchanged. But you see he doesn't belong to this army. Therefore will not come under this agreement.

The citizens have nearly all left Atlanta and gone either North or South. This was Sherman's order. By the way, I was with Gen'l Leggett to visit Gen'l Sherman today. He looks finely and appears in the best of spirits. Is a very sociable, friendly man and is <u>beloved</u> by all his soldiers. The army here is being paid off. This suits the men. I never saw our men more healthy nor in better spirits. I think the Rebellion is on its last legs. If <u>Lincoln</u> is elected, all is right. If not, I don't know what will be the consequence. I think there is no doubt but all will be right.

How is old Doc't Madden? Tell John if he says one word to whip him good. If he gets into trouble, I am with him. I tried hard to get him to say one word against the government just so I could have some excuse and I would have busted his head. I intend doing it yet, if ever a chance presents itself. Did Josy get a school with us? When does your school commence? I expect to be with you by Christmas. But don't flatter yourselves with my coming until you see me. I will send in my resignation on the 26th day of Nov, next being three years from my enlistment and if we are not on a campaign all will be right, I think. If we are, I will not offer it. There will be a Cap't commission in the next mail for me which I will refuse to accept. I intend to come home and my mind is made up. Until this is accomplished I will not be satisfied. For I have promised to come

and if I can do so honorably I am coming. If not I will stay. I would die rather than leave the service in dishonor. When I have served three years I \_\_\_\_\_\_ feel I have done my duty. When it comes my turn again, I will be ready and willing to come. I suppose the draft will be enforced. It was to commence yesterday. It will be done this time. I saw a telegram from E.M. Stanton. The Sec of War and Gen'l Sherman today stating it would be enforced. This pleases the soldiers certain. I will close for this time. My \_\_\_\_\_\_ regards to all my friends. My love to you all. Write soon and often and oblige.

Your affectionate brother

George