

9-12-1863

Letter from George W. Porter to Francis P. Porter

George W. Porter

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Oliver to David G. M. Smith Esq. & wife
of Fall River, Mass.
Sept 12th 1863

Dear Mother &
write often

Head Quarters 3^d Division
17th Army Corps.

Vicksburg Miss. September 12th 1863.

Sister Frank;

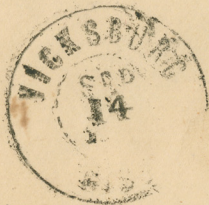
I again seat myself to
pen you a few lines, which I cannot
promise to be interesting. However I will
do the very best I can to entertain you
for a short time at least. I have not heard
from home since I left. I begin to feel
uneasy. but will content myself by
thinking I will hear from home next
mail. I suppose you have heard from
me since I left. I wrote twice while on
my way here. and two or three times since
I arrived. I am determined you shall
never have cause to censure me in
this respect. I love to write home. It is
always a pleasure rather than a task.
I hope you will continue to be prompt
in writing. I want to hear from home often.

For nothing affords me more pleasure
than the perusal of a good long
epistle from home. It appears that you
& Huldah thought hard of me the
evening of the Concert, & for not going
with you. The truth of the matter is, I
had engaged Miss. Lute's Company
before I knew you were going to remain
in town. Under such circumstances I
hardly knew what to do. I then offered
to give you money to go, hoping at the
time that you would not go for I did
not want you to go alone & me with
other company. But I was eluded and
what better could I do. If I did wrong
I did it unintentionally. I know you
thought hard of me. I certainly was not
to blame. God knows I would not hurt
either of your feelings (intentionally) for
anything in the world. I wrote to Father
a few days since & told him of Lute's
being a prisoner. He is in Libby's prison
Richmond Virginia. I imagine

I see the poor fellow playing checkers
with his nose. Wont this be a good
joke on him. I expect I had not better
boast very much. For I know not what
I may have to pass through yet.
I hope never through prison. If I get
through this easy I may be thankful.
I don't know where we will go from
here. Genl. Leggett is in command of
this Division. We look for Logan back
soon. The Genl. thinks of going home
a few days when Logan returns. I tell
you now we are having a gay time
here. I don't think Leggett will ever
go back to his Brigade. Genl. Grant
has offered him command of all
the forces along the River from Helena
down to Port Hudson. He has not deci-
ded whether he will accept this com-
mand or not. Wherever he goes I am with
him. I found him just as I expected
"all right" & not one word did he say
about me staying as I did. I tell

you now he is a number one man,
And in him I find a warm friend.
Have just brought in my washing.
I tell you it is done up finely. I am
very hearty and enjoying myself
finely. I want you to sit down and
write me a long letter and tell me
how all of you are getting along. Don't
write me two or three lines but a good
long letter, giving me all the news. Give
Miss Emma my respects, and tell me
how she is getting along. I found a very
favorable opinion of her & Borders' girls
also, give them my best wishes. Tell all
to write John, Hulda, Mary, Aunt,
Will & Joe. I want to hear from all
often. Picking is well & hearty. My respects
to his folks. Aunt, Sam & all other
friends. Remember me kindly to
Mrs & Mr Hamplman. Mrs & Mr
Borders, and Mrs. & Mr Gamm, &
my love to you all I remain your affec-
tionate brother & son.

Write soon } G. W. Peter.



Miss E. P. Porter

Clinton
Illinois,

Seivett Co. }



September 12, 1863

Addressed to Miss F.P. Porter

Dewitt Co. Clinton, Illinois

Head Quarters 3rd Division

17th Army Corps

Vicksburg, Miss September 12, 1863

Sister Frank:

I again seat myself to pen you a few lines which I cannot promise to be interesting. However, I will do at the very best I can to entertain you for a short time at least. I have not heard from home since I left. I begin to feel uneasy but will content myself by thinking I will hear from home next mail. I suppose you have heard from me since I left. I wrote twice while on the way here and two or three times since I arrived. I am determined you shall never have cause to censure me in this respect. I love to write home. It is always a pleasure rather than a task. I hope you will continue to be prompt in writing. I want to hear from home often.

For nothing affords me more pleasure than the perusal of a good long epistle from home. It appears that you and Huldah thought hard of me the evening of the concert for not going with you. The truth of the matter is I had engaged Miss Lute's company before I knew you were going to remain in town. Under such circumstances, I hardly knew what to do. I then offered to give you money to go, hoping at the time you would not go for I did not want you to go alone & me with other company. But I was elected and what better could I do. If I did wrong, I did it unintentionally. I knew you thought hard of me. I certainly was not to blame. God knows I would not want to hurt either of your feelings (intentionally) for anything in the world.

I wrote to father a few days since & told him of Sump being a prisoner. He is in Libby prison Richmond, Virginia. I imagine I see the poor fellow playing checkers with his nose. Won't this be a good joke on him. I expect I had not better boast very much. For I know not what I may have to pass through yet. I hope never through prison. If I get through this easy, I may be thankful. I don't know where we will go from here. Gen'l Leggett is in command of this Division. We look for Logan back soon. The Gen'l thinks of going home a few days when Logan returns. I tell you now we are having a gay time here. I don't think Leggett will ever go back to his Brigade. Gen'l Grant has offered him command of all the forces along the River from Helena down to Port Hudson. He has not decided whether he will accept this command or not. Wherever he goes, I am with him just as I expected all right not one word did he say about me staying as I did. I tell you now he is a number one man and in him I find a warm friend.

Dave just brought in my washing. I tell you it is done finely. I am very hearty and enjoying myself finely. I want you to sit down and write me a long letter and tell me how all of you are getting along. Don't write me two or three lines but a good letter, giving me all the news. Give Miss Emma my respects and tell me how she is getting along. I _____ a very favorable

opinion of her & Border's girls. Also give them my best wishes. Tell all to write. John, Huldah, Mary, Maut(?), Will & Joe. I want to hear from all often. Rickey is well and hearty. My respects to his folks, Gust's, Sam's and all other friends. Remember me kindly to Mrs. and Mr. Hampleman, Mrs. & Mr. Borders, and Mrs. & Mr. Yanuns(?), My love to you all. I remain your affectionate brother & Son

G.W. Porter

Write soon

Father and Mother write soon

Direct to Lieut G.W. Porter Gen'l Leggett Staff Logan Division. Grant's Army.