12-23-1862

Letter from Robert Hanson to Francis P. Porter

Robert Hanson

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/harvey-letters

Part of the Military History Commons, Social History Commons, and the United States History Commons

Recommended Citation
Hanson, Robert, "Letter from Robert Hanson to Francis P. Porter" (1862). Harvey Collection Letters. 201.
https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/harvey-letters/201

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Harvey Letters (All) at Digital Commons @ OWU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Harvey Collection Letters by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ OWU. For more information, please contact earutigl@owu.edu.
Oxford Mississippi  
December 23, 1863

Dear Frank,

Your kind favor arrived the evening that we arrived to the village of Water Valley, and was read by the light of our camp fire. Candles not one to be had. I handed it over to George who was almost crazy to hear from home. Now I have received a letter from home for some time. George is the same Morally as he was before he went into camp. Gilbert, personally he has improved very much, he is better looking. Hunter then he was, and has as some ladies say a 'love of a Monsture.' Which is very large. Taking him altogether he is a man that would if he were home come all the Ladies hearts to flutter. That is my opinion of him, also still make his Father, Mother, & Sisters proud to call him Brother. Your excuse for not writing sooner is a good one.
Yes great changes have taken place since last letter. Herrard is not very well but try Christmas, and I suppose that this Christmas will be on the march. We have been over the water Valley 18 miles south of this place. Our Brigade four miles in front of the Grand Army of the Mississippi, have been put on half rations and coffee cannot get it. Tea we draw, I do not like it. On our retreat thus far we burnt sixteen bridges on the McR Road and played smash with thrice in general. All the houses we returned had the Stars & Stripes hanging out. We have not had a mail for sometime on account of the rebels getting into Holly Springs and tearing up the Rail Road. By the paper that are posted in town on nearly every gatepost this place is full of small box. Some of the members of 60 I has it. Will me not have a lovely time of it. Thanks.
The weather here is warm at present, writing night are cool, indeed the days are so warm that we all get the Spring fever. Miss Meda is lonesome well I am sorry. Just tell her to come over here and you come along. We will give you the very softest crackers and the clearest meat that we have, and you may have one of our tents and the softest board and the nicestst blankets to sleep on. Oh, we will do more than that. We will let you have a good look at Gen Grant and McPherson. I go out our Brigade. Let get to indeed me and I will. Mr Story is here and has been here two or three weeks is much pleased with soldiers. He came down to see his boys three of them in our Company. I must now close we have just came in from our March to Water Valley and I am very tired. Please give my Regards to your Father, Mother and Frank and all the rest. Meda included. Yours Friend

R Hanson

Please answer soon as you can R. H.
December 23, 1862

Oxford, Mississippi

December 23, 1862

Friend Frank

Your rate favor arrived the evening that we marched to the valley of Water Valley and was read by
the light of our campfire. Candles, not one to be had. I handed it over to George who was almost
crazy to hear from home having not received a letter from home for some time.

George is the same morally as he was before. He went into Camp Gilbert personally, he has
improved very much, he is better looking. Stouter than he was and has as some ladies say, a love of
a mustache, whiskers very large. Taking him altogether, he is a man that would if he were home
cause all the ladies hearts to flutter. That is my opinion of him. Also will make his Father, Mother,
& Sisters proud to call him Brother.

Your excuse for not writing sooner is a good one. Yes, great changes have taken place since last
Christmas and I suppose that this Christmas we will be on the march. We have bene once more cut
off and are now marching back previous to the time we were wending our way southward and had
arrived at Water Valley 18 miles south of this place. Our Brigade 4 miles ahead of the grand army of
the Mississippi have been put on half rations and coffee cannot get it. Tea we draw, I do not like it.

On our retreat, we burnt sixteen bridges on the Mi R Road and played smash with things in general.
All the houses as we returned had the Stars & Stripes hanging out. We have not had a mail for some
time on account of the Rebels getting into Holly Springs and tearing up the Rail road. By the paper
that are posted in town on nearly every gatepost, this place is full of smallpox. Some of the members
of Co. A has it. Will we not have a lovely time of it. Think so.

Sergt Sherrard is not very well, but tries his best to keep up. He received a letter the other day
informing him of the death of his little boy. He talks very much about him. Poor man. I wish that he
could have been there at the time of his son's death. ______ Gardner is clerk for Col. Leggett. Brock
is in good health. Lew Rusk is a good religious man is the same that he was when he left home. Capt
John W.A. Gillespie has twenty days leave of absence, on account of his health, will leave for home
tomorrow morning.

We have had no news for some time from the east except that Burnside had burnt Fredericksburg
and was pushing on to Richmond. I think that the President's proclamation will bring order and
peace. I do not believe the South will let the first of January go by without doing something to show
that it will yield and come back under the flag.

The weather here is warm at present, writing nights are cool, indeed the days are so warm that we
get the spring fever. Miss Meda is lonesome. Well I am sorry. Just tell her to just come over here
and you come along. We will give you the very softest crackers and the leanest meat that we have
and you may have one of our tents and the softest board and newest blanket to sleep on. Oh! We will
do more than that. We will let you have a good look at Gen Grant, McPherson, Logan, our Brigadier
Leggett, indeed we will. Mr. Story is here and has been here two or three weeks and is much pleased
with soldiering. He came down to see his boys, three of them in company.
I must now close. We have just come in from our march to Water Valley and I am very tired. Please give my regards to your Father, Mother, and Frank and all the rest. Meda included. Your friend

R Hanson

Please answer soon as you can