

2-25-1863

Letter from George W. Porter to Francis P. Porter

George W. Porter

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H^{on}. Brs. 2nd Brigade

Providence La, Feb. 25th / 63.

Dear Sister Frank:

I was much pleased to once more have the pleasure of perusing a kind letter from you. I had almost come to the conclusion that it was impossible to hear from you any more. But I was happily disappointed. It seems strange I could not get your letters. I am provoked to think the description of your trip did not come to hand. I was so anxious to learn how our friends received you, what you thought of our new relatives, and in fact I must yet have a full description of that visit. Don't forget to give it in your next. I am anxious to hear,

I want to know what you think of
the boys wives, give me a full account
of all. You speak of seeing me soon.
God only knows when I will get to see
you. I suppose not until this Unholy
Rebellion is no more. I am so far from
home it will be impossible to come.
Do not flatter yourselves with my coming.
But hope for the best. Tell Father to take
good care of himself. Not to expose him-
self in any manner whatever. And you
must not any of you grieve or
trouble yourselves about me. If I am
 spared I will return to your bosoms
once more. If not "all right" for he who
rules the universe doeth all things
well. And what do your lady friends
think of the Picture of your Brother. There
is no use of Talking. "He is a whale".

I had not rec'd. one line from you for
over four months. I know not who was
to blame. I rec'd. letters from others. The
reason I did not get yours. Is a question
I cannot solve. I do not think it was
your fault. If I thought you thought
no more of me than this. I would never
pen you another line. But I have
proof enough otherwise. I heard Medes
and I were engaged. I am glad I
found it out. If the day should come
and we not know it. I would feel
bored. What I said in reference to ~~46~~
is just as I said. However he is not as
bad as some time since. I hope he will
do better. I would like much to meet
Gasper Garnett. Bill Garnett is here
I saw him yesterday. he looks fine.
To Lieut. 17th Ills. Worthington & Marion

God's gift is a blessing. The position
of engineering in clearing out those
of the river and getting through with
the corn and seed corn
had better both be in the service of
their Country, than laying around
home. I hope Thaldah will succeed
well. I wish you all a pleasant &
merry time at your new home. I expect
you are on the farm ere this. As for
Bill Starkey. I don't hear from him
any more nor never want to. He has
not the principle of a dog, what lady
had seen me blush at his assertions?
I tell you he is a hard boy, I never want
anything to do with him. If John can
find it in his heart to write to a
person, who has talked about Father as
he has, he can do more than I can.
I have no respect for any one who speaks
of Father as he did. Had he been where
he could have told me, instead of
writing. He would have got his mouth wide.

If I am spared to meet him, I will
settle all this. I don't take everything.
If he wants to talk let him talk about
me and not Father. The poor man
Howard. Why is he not in the field
with the rest of us. After all if he was so
much the smartest & best boy in the
estimation of our relatives. Put him
out in the field with me or any
where else and see which will succeed
the best. I can pass around any of the
name. in any capacity I care not
what. I hope I may live to meet you
all. My desire is to show them that they
don't know it all yet. I suppose you
are aware ere this of my position on
Col. Leggett's Staff. I am Aide de camp.
one of the most pleasant positions in
the whole service. This shows I have

attended to my business while here. My duty is to aid the Col. in all his duties, I mess with him, and am with him all the time. My Company here is always first class. Generals and Staff Officers. We were to visit Generals Logan & McPherson to day. They are very fine sociable men. I tell you (if I do say it myself) Your Brother gets along finely. And has friends here who are friends. Those who will stand by my side when friends are most needed. I have not a single enemy in my knowing. I sail among the best of them here. I wish we were not so far away. I would like so much for Father to pay me a visit, as it is I suppose it is impossible. Oh! how

Much I would like to see him here. He would then find George not to be the worst fellow in the world at last. At Guadalupe & other have tried to make him believe, that this would be a beautiful place to live. if it was was more. Genl. Logan & Staff. begged & Staff took a ride down the Lake about 6 miles to day and up Bayou Macon 2 miles and back to day. I thought as I rode along past the different plantations I would love to live here upon the bank of this beautiful little Lake. We are cutting a Canal from the River into the Lake. And clearing out Bayou Macon. Thence we run into another Bayou. Thence into the Washita River. Thence into Red River. Then we will give Dickson

Direct to Lt. Col. Davis 1011 1/2 St. Louis
Missouri and I will be glad to receive from you
any news of the family and the army.

Thunder, we are within 30 miles of
Vicksburg by land, 75 by water.
I have no news of importance to
communicate, I suppose you will
be surprised when I tell you Peach
trees are in bloom here, As we passed
along to day I was charmed by the
music of the many birds throughout
the different hedges. I thank I long
for the time when I can mingle
with you all as in time passed &
gone. Those were happy days. They
passed and we were hardly aware of
it. I love you all as a Brother should
love, and hope to meet you soon.
I have written more already than
will interest you, I close hoping to
hear from you all soon. My love
to one and all. I remain your Brother

George



Miss E. P. Porter
Clinton
Missouri.

Dewitt County.



February 25, 1863

Addressed to Miss F.P. Porter

Clinton, Dewitt County Illinois

Head Quarters 2d Brigade

Providence, La Feb 25th/63

Dear Sister Frank

I was much pleased to once more have the pleasure perusing a kind letter from you. I have almost come to the conclusion that it was impossible to hear from you any more. But I was happily disappointed. It seems strange. I could not get your letters. I am provoked to think the description of your trip did not come to hand. I was anxious to learn how our friends received you, what you thought of our new relatives, and in fact I must yet have a full description of that visit. Don't forget to give it all in your next. I am anxious to hear.

I want to know what you think of the boys wives. Give me a full account of all. You speak of seeing me soon. God only knows when I will get to see you. I suppose until this unholy Rebellion is no more. I am so far from home it will be impossible for me to come. Do not flatter yourselves with my coming but hope for the best. Tell Father to take good care of himself, not to expose himself in any manner whatever, and you must not, any of you grieve after or trouble yourselves about me. If am spared, I will return to your bosoms once more. If not "all right" for he who rules the universe doeth all things well. And what do your lady friends think of the Picture of Your Brother. There is no use of talking. "He is a whale."

I had not lied. One line from you for over four months I know not who was to blame. I rec'd letters from others. The reason I did not get yours is a question I cannot solve. I do not think it was your fault. If I thought you thought no more of me than this, I would never pen you another line. But I have proof enough otherwise. I heard Meda and I were engaged. I am glad I found it out. If the day should come and me not know it, I would feel loved. What I said in reference to H is just as I said. However, he is not as bad as sometime since. I hope he will do better. I would like much to meet Jasper Yarnell, Bill Yarnell is here. I saw him yesterday, he looks fine. 2d Lieut 14th Ills Worthington & Marion had better both be in the service of their country than laying around home. I hope Huldah will succeed well. I wish you all a pleasant and merry time at your new home. I expect you are on the farm ere this. As for Bill Markey, I don't hear from him any more nor never want to. He has not the principle of a dog. What Lady had seen me blush at his assertions. I tell you he is a hard boy. I never want anything to do with him. If John can find it in his heart to write to a person who has talked about Father as he has, he can do more than I can. I have no respect for anyone who speaks of Father as he did. Had he been where he could have told me instead of writing, he would have got his mouth broke.

If I am spared to meet him, I will settle all this. I won't take everything. If he wants to talk, let him talk about me and not Father. The poor mans a Coward. Why is he not in the field with the rest of us. After all, he was so much the smartest and best boy in the estimation of our relatives.

Put him out in the field with me or anywhere else and see which will succeed the best. I can _____ around any of the name in any capacity I care not what.

I hope I may live to meet you all. My desire is to show them that they don't know it all yet. I suppose you are aware ere this, of my position on Col. Leggett's staff. I am Aide de Camp, one of the most pleasant positions in the whole service. This shows I have attended my business while here. My duty is to aid the Col. in all his duties. I mess with him and am with him all the time. My company here is always first class. Generals and staff officers. We were to visit Generals Logan and McPherson today. They are fine sociable men. I tell you (if I do say it myself) your brother gets along finely. And has friends here who are friends. Those who will stand by my side when friends are most needed. I have not a single enemy in my _____. I sail among the best of them here. I wish we were not so far away. I would like so much for Father to pay me a visit, as it is, I suppose it is impossible. Oh! how much I would like to see him here. He would then find George not to be the worst fellow in the world at last, as Quadlock & others have tried to make him believe. Frank, this would be a beautiful place to live if war was on no more.

Genrl Logan & Staff, Leggett & Staff took a ride down the Lake about 6 miles today and up Bayou Macon 2 miles and back today. I thought as I rode along past the different plantations I would love to live here upon the bank of this beautiful little lake. We are cutting a Canal from the river into the lake and clearing out Bayou Macon. Thence into the Washita River. Thence into the Red River. Then we will give Vicksburg thunder. We are within 30 miles of Vicksburg by land. 15 by water. I have no news of importance to communicate. I suppose you will be surprised when I tell you Peach trees are in bloom here. As we _____ along today, I was charmed by the music of the many birds throughout the different hedges. Frank, I long for the time when I can mingle with you all as in times passed & gone. Those were happy days. The _____ an we were hardly aware of it. I love you all as a brother should love and hope to meet you soon. I have written more already than will interest you. I close hoping to hear from you all soon. My love to one and all. I remain your brother

George

Direct to Lt. G.W. Porter 78th Regt OVI 2d Brigade Logan's Division Grants Army

Omit the plate and then it will follow, go where I may