



Thomas Montgomery and family papers.

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Port Hudson, La., June 19th 1864.

1864.

56

My Dear Parents & Brothers

I sit down to write you, perhaps my last letter from Port Hudson.

Day before yesterday our Brigade received marching orders & from that to the present I had a ^{very} busy time. We turned over all our ^{surplus} tents, ordnance, clothing, camp & garrison equipage, and drew shelter tents for all.

These are carried by the men, two men to a tent, one is allowed to each officer. They are a poor protection. Yesterday, we made all ready had to send to Post 2 M. my mess chest, camp desk, my uniform, sash, Books &c. The men march light & still have a load to carry. We have only three teams to the Reg.

If I had to carry my knapsack now down in this hot broiling sun, I don't think I could stand it. As it is I find enough to do to get along, but as long as my health is pretty good I will not complain.

The reg. takes about 500 men, over 100 are left behind sick. I take 40 men & one 2^d Lieut.

1st Lieut. Harrison being unwell does not go. We are going up the River they say to Morgan's about 20 miles. It is intended to establish a post there on the west side of the River.

I am Officer of the day to day. I write you thus hastily in the Provost Marshal's office. We formed line this morning, early & are now at the landing ready to be ferried across the river, and we will march up the balance of the way.

Jews is uninteresting. The Rebels were
round this post in large force a few days
ago, but did not offer battle.

We loss heavily by thus moving. I suppose
we may never get our property left behind.
I left over \$60. personal property.

But this is nothing if I don't get involved with the
government, but I don't fear that much.

I hope this will find you all in good
health. also all the Cleveland friends.

Last night I lay for the first time under
these dog tents. I think we are going to
Morganza to build fortifications.

I hope soon to hear from you again, direct
until further notice to Fort Henderson, La.

The men feel in good spirits and were
it not for the oppressive heat, would stand
it first rate. As it is I fear many would
give out if they had to march far.

I will soon close hoping to hear from
you all soon & often.

I hope you have received the money. I heard
others had.

Hoping this will find you doing well
I will close. Don't be uneasy about me
for I will try & take care of myself.

I commit myself to God's care, and know
he will do all things well.

Pray for me that through anxiety & care
I may not forget the chief end of man.

Yours truly
A. B. Montgomery
1st Co. "B." 67th U.S. Colored Infantry.