



Thomas Montgomery and family papers.

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(65)

Head Qrs. Co. "H." 67th Regt. U.S.C.S.

Morganza La, August 10th 1864.

Dear Brother James Charles,

Your letter of the 22nd ult. was received by me yesterday. It was entirely unexpected, because it was only six days since I received yours of the 12th. It was only 17 days in coming. I was glad to hear that you were all in good health and getting along so finely. My own health is improving very fast. I am gaining fast, do duty regularly, and enjoy very good health. Capt Whitford returned to the Regt. yesterday. We were all glad to see him. He is much improved in health, but going home saved his life probably. There is now 9 Captains in the Regt. present. (one is on Gen. Piles Staff) So duty with us will be light I hope. I was out yesterday in command of the Battalion on fatigue, on the fort, three officers being with me. The fort is nearly completed and will mount about 40 guns.

I cannot be too careful here.

Last evening the gunboats here fired a few broadsides, cause! good news from Mobile. Our land & naval forces captured the forts at the entrance with nearly a thousand prisoners, and the city lies at our mercy; one report said it was taken. Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger, is operating there, Reports say that Gen. M. P. Banks is relieved from Command of this Dept. News from the North is very good. Fears of an attack at this place have subsided, The Rebs. would make a poor show taking this place now.

The weather is warm but not uncomfortably so. Very little rain. The Mississippi River is extremely low. Have not heard from the 7th Minn., but saw a list of wounded at Memphis. Saw A. Savidge's name. Have not sent Lizzy up yet. Being out of money. I cannot yet; again, I fear to send her alone, so will wait for a more favorable opportunity, when some one may be going ^{ap.}

about 6 weeks. I get at it now, and they
nearly out of the lobby, I get at it now, and they
I was glad to know that you got
along so well in cradling. I fear
you have too much work to do,
with I hope ere this you have received
by my letters written from here.
I write pretty often. I get your letters
quite regular. I see the N. E. Advocate
& other religious papers, here quite often.
We also receive little books &c. from the
Christian Commission, of incalculable
benefit to us. The day & Sunday School
in the Reg. progress finely. Preaching
& prayer meetings are frequent
now among the Darkies, being they
have a place to hold forth in. Last night
one of them preached an able and impressive
discourse, to a large crowd. A prayer
after several came up. It was just
behind my tent so I could see all.
I suppose you were greatly interested
in the show you saw, in Cleveland.
I saw dozens of such in St Louis.
You should learn how to spell Mass.

But it is much better to see the reality
with the exceptions of seeing large
battles. I have seen considerable of the
paraphernalia of war. In the Potomac
Army is the place to see war as a
live reality. Our fare is pretty good
It costs us about \$1.50 pr. month

Paymaster has not come round yet
I suppose we will not be paid ^{money} till after
next muster. When I will receive \$500
out of which I will have to pay \$25 Tax.
My yearly Tax is at the rate of \$75, being
5 per cent. now, on all income.

Capt. Whitford seems to be astonished at my
having lost so much flesh since he
left. at any rate Mother need not fear
that I am too lusty. I am obliged to
Mother for her half of the letter
Surely she need not think that
it is undervalued or not appreciated.
It oftentimes sets me to thinking whether
I am a Christian or not, and is an
incentive to do my duty, and be a
pattern of propriety.

Give my respects to all my friends
Happy to hear all are so well

Write soon direct Capt. F. Montgomery
Co "K" 67 "U.S. I. Morganzia La.
Our Regiment has Reg. inspection to day.
I drill my company now every day.
I think of you all very often. I imagine
just how every thing looks, better than you
can form an estimate of how we too
I would like to hear from Father & family.
With love to you all I remain your
affectionate son, Chas. Montgomery