

Sunday Eve. Feb. 28th (no year given)

Elizabeth.

You need look for no further apology on my part for writing long letters the mail will go out tomorrow and having filled one sheet without finishing my letter, have commenced the second sheet.

The weather has been very warm to day for the season and to night it is like northern midsummer. A warm Sunday is the most lonesome day we have, not because our duty is any less for that makes little difference with the soldiers duty, but on Sunday the boys may be seen in groups rehearsing the many pleasant times they were want to spend while citizens, attending church in the forenoon and in the afternoon would enjoy themselves in useful reading or conversation as the case might be, and then they will tell of the visits made on Suh. evening, and each one will join in the wish that they might be at home once more to enjoy those scenes again. It is very pleasant of course to think of such scenes it however has the tendency to make one feel very lonely. The guns for our fort have arrived, 14(?) in number being of the Columbia pattern, 6 inch calibre.

I think judging from the weight of metal and no. of guns they are sending here this must be an important place much more important than I had thought. These guns are to be mounted right away and together with a field battery will make 20 pieces of artillery. After the fort is finished, and guns ready it will be exceedingly good policy for the rebs to keep their distance. There is considerable talk at present as to what our Regt will do during the summer. It is thought by some that a portion of the Regt will be detailed as artillerymen and the whole Regt remain at this place all summer while others think we will be sent with the expedition now fitting out at N.O. for the purpose of taking Mobile.

Feb. 28th (no year)

We have no objections to staying here but if it is necessary for us to take the field again to strike another blow at rebellion and seceding we will go and the old 42nd will be heard from as before, as one of the advance in the fight.

I think as a general thing throughout the country patriotism is at a discount there are however very many exceptions for one I think I am just as patriotic as ever and would like to fight or do anything in my power to kill rebellion and treason so so dead that it will never dare even whisper again on this continent. I have however seen considerable and cense quiently learned something in the last 2½ yr's.

There is altogether too much political wire pulling and intrigueing at home and too much favoritism shown in the army to suit my constitution, if every man in high office could be honest and work for the good of his country the feeling among the men, in the ranks would be much different. Then instead of thinking our duty done at the expiration of the three yr's term, we would willingly agree to serve the country so long as there could be found one armed rebel.

I did not intend to write so much on this subject for I know it cannot be interesting to you war is our business at present and why should not my mind naturally lead into this channel.

The more I see your Photo the more life-like it seems, it is very silent however not yet having uttered a sentence since its arrival in Dixie.

Elizabeth please prefix to my name Sergt. there are two other Locals in the Regt and the last letter I rec'd from you was missent to one of them by our Regt Postmaster he had commenced to open the letter but saw the mistake before he broke the seal. This change will serve all such mistakes of Postmasters in future.

Wishing you a kind good night

I remain as ever truly Leonard