

Albion W. Longue O.,
Kingsville

Stabulw Co.

Ohio

Camp Dickinson Near
Fort Lyon, Va. Oct. 5th, 1861
Brother Albion;

By your signa-
ture, I find I may thus address
you. I feel that it is a privilege.
& it certainly is an unexpected one
for I ~~now~~ know you are not calling
every one "Brother". You told me
once that Seneca was the only
person whom you ever called by
that name; & without flattery, to
be one of such a brotherhood, I
consider not only a privilege but
an honor. By the way, I recd. a letter
from Seneca today. The fellow really
entertains wretched sentiments, & wants
me to write plainly & give him "reasons
why" he "should not enter the army"; He
says you have been telling not to ~~come~~
by any means.

Oct. 24th — I would commence another letter if I had time, but it is now ten P.M. & I must write two letters. You will therefore excuse haste. I was speaking of you &c., I do not know what to write the fellow. To advise him to come is much against my judgment, but when I hear that you say if you were able you would come back into the army, I come to the conclusion that there are reasons for joining which I am ignorant. I wish you would let me know why you would ~~come~~ again go into the army if well. You, no doubt, want to know how the Company is getting along. I will tell as briefly as possible. The Captains has been excused for his part in the running affair by universal consent, & the boys are now ready to follow him anywhere. ~~But the fellow that his position~~

is not firm & does not take the bold stand he ought to in governing the Company. Lieut. Baker is hated as badly as ever, & there is now a motion afoot to get him to remove himself or else to remove him. Ellerbeck for the first time has showed spirit in starting this thing. He drew up a paper addressed to Col. Bartlett, in which he attempted to say that he did not like Lieut. Baker & wished he would remove him. (But you never saw much worse English. It amounted to this. Col. Bartlett, Capt. Wenger & Lieut. Gould in whom we have confidence & whom we will follow, we sick & in case of attack in this state of affairs, will you lead us.) Whether ^{Baker} he will take the hint I do not know. I hope most devoutly he will, for he is now, the greatest hindrance to good order. Do you have already

seen, he is now in command & I think we never had so little order before. He knows the boys do not like him & this makes all his government seem as if so selfish a nature, sportaking a kind of revenge that he is hated more for every effort to do well. He cannot go to Rochester & I think he is to be pitied. But because he deserves pity, he does not deserve to be attached to our Co. in such manner as to ruin it. Whether he is removed or not remains to be seen. — Lieut Gould is now sick & away from camp. Has been unwell for some time. (wonder I should say to you that he should have written to you before had he been well) His position with some of the boys is not quite as good as when it was before the appointment of Mon. Coms. The boys think Morton Gould has no right to the place of Serj. & lay all the blame upon Ed. His absence is unfavorable, when he comes among them again it will be all right I guess. His health is improving

& he will probably soon be among us. — By this time you see that you were mistaken in supposing me "out of sympathy". I am obliged to you for your congratulations & good wishes. The Mon. Coms. are, Sergeants, in order Ellerbe, Webster, Stillson, Gould, Procock, Corporals, Hyatt, Morton, Crumpton, Halsted, Thompson, Brown, Price & Colby (no recruit). Some of them ought to be broke I think from what happened ^{to day} yesterday. It rained very hard last night & today it was too wet to work on the fort. The Col. was gone & we had no drill. As the boys were off to Alexandria & some of them came home drunk as fools. Among them were Price & Thompson. By good right, ^{rather most} some of them should have been broke the next day after they were appointed for they were as drunk as need be to behave well. You see the Mayor

Law is not put in force in every respect. Though is great improvement generally to what there was when you were here.

The practice of giving whiskey to the men working on forts is not a good one & it seems singular that Mr. Allen does not change it. Each man is paid with one gill per day. (You servant has the distinguished honor of distributing it to our Co.)

We are now about two miles south west of Alexandria, on the hills, or perhaps more properly hills, just beyond Hunting Creek; but we do not expect to remain here long. Next night ahead we will move in a day or two. I cannot tell you where. Brown says we are going on a Marine expedition. Of course he knows!

Perhaps I ought to say a word about Ellerton. He plays the part of orderly about as he used to though lately he has been trying to be "good" to the boys.

The great trouble with him is he is slow (lazy) & he has lost none of his tyranny (only temporarily) HE is just as unreasonable as ever. HE came in the other day blowing about the paper from which I sent you a quotation. I said as much about what he wrote's being true, that I told him that whatever he means to say what he did say conveyed to the reader an untruth. (We had a little scene during which he told several lies & as I could not get a word (a whole one) in response, I hope I can put as much a son of the devil - judged by that conversation - as he would be thought to be. We live in the same tent & have just about as much conversation as Geo & Samwells. I suppose when talking with him, I am entertaining an "angel" manner.

Col. Bartlett is endured with less grumbling than at first. I wish we had a better man in his place. Adams & Gardner do very well.

I am glad your health is improving
though slowly. Yet I think you
ought to take some steps to secure a
pension. One man left Co. K. on
account of rupture & is to receive
a pension of \$96 per year. He is talking
with Dr. Barnes, & he said all those
injured at Bull Run could have
their pension secured to them. If I
can do any thing for you I will do so.

I sent to Van Comper the money due
in advance. With his return letter he
sent a notice to you that you note was
due which you will find enclosed.

I do not know as I need apol-
ogize to you for not writing sooner.
You know how I have been situated.
I am more than a thousand times ob-

liged to you for urging friends to write me.
Hoping soon to hear from you again
& in better health. I remain your
soldier-brother
J. Webster