

CHATTANOOGA HISTORY CENTER

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2015.001.047 transcription

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Chattanooga, August 29th, 1864

Dear Friend [?] Lottie:

I came in from a scout about 3 oclock P.M. of today and found your letter, with several others awaiting my perusal, need I say which was the first to have its seal broken, I think not when I tell you that this was now in the lot from home. I had been on a scout for a whole week was after the Rebel General Wheeler, he who has been busily engaged burning and destroying the railroads between here and the front. We did not get close enough to him to engage him as we had no cavalry it was very easy for him (his force being all cavalry) to keep out of our way. But I understand he was not as fortunate in getting away from General Kilpatrick. He (Kilpatrick) came on him from the opposite direction from us, at a place called "Strawberry Plains," and acording to report, whipped Wheeler most beautifully. I hope such is the case for I like to hear that the "rebs" have been whipped. Had it not been for my mail I would much preferred staying out and not come any where near camp, but I did want very much to get my mail, so when the order was issued.

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to get ready to serve (? page is torn on this word) I was very much gratified we traveled through a most beautiful country, and for a wonder, the people were all at home and at work, as industrious as one could wish to see. I saw some very good looking ladies but as a general thing they were the most ordinary looking persons I ever saw. some young ladies were really ugly, in fact I did not see any that would compare with our McKean County girls. They talk about the "Southern Belles" but I have yet to see one that I would call a "belle", when I do I will write and inform you. I would not have missed the trip for a great deal. I am no longer Orderly for the Court Martial. As you have, no doubt, come to the conclusion long in this, I was relieved from that duty-on the 19th,vist [?] and on the 21st started on the expedition after Wheeler.

Hearts is rather a dangerous thing to play with at least so say those who have dealt in the article. Though in Eucher, I prefer hearts to any other trump, And have no doubt but I may yet be bothered

with what is called the "Heart Disease". I hope it may not trouble me until I get out of the service, for, by all accounts, it is a very dangerous disease. Perhaps you can tell me.

I should very much liked to have been there to help to entertain the "vets" of the 58th but as you say I will not murmur [?]. When I come home you must wake up your mind to have another furlough and attend another parties in one..

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week. But perhaps you will want another furlough before I come I have a idea you will. I do not think you are always so [?]. In fact I know differently, as I did not see you to a party all the time I was at home.

Let the people fear the draft as much as they please but rest assured that I am not afraid of the draft. I am in out [?] of that for 2 1/2 years to come at least when that time is up if they want more troops I may make up my mind to get afraid of the draft and run to waterford [?] as well as some others do. Until that time I will not let it trouble me.

My compliments to Miss Colegrove (I should say Mrs. Sanders) and say to her that I send my best wished and that I hope she will be as happy as I intend to be if I every slip the noose matrimony over my head.

By all means call at our house I think you will like my mother much. She is what I call a model mother- I may not a competent judge but I think I am.

Please excuse me from writing a long letter tonight as I wish to go to the river and take a bath and then Ill to bed like a good boy as I am.

My compliments to Casey and your father.

Your friend,

George L. Young

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P.S.- I have some very nice peaches, will you sit up to the table here and eat some while I look over my letters. Perhaps I'll entertain you with a few choice paragraphs. Then I'll bring out the large watermelon that lies there in the corner and we will eat that. If we can eat any more I'll try and find some choice apples and pears. Take hold I got them all while out on this scout.

George L.Y.