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2015.001.049 transcription

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Rooms Gen'l Court Martial

Chattanooga, Aug 8th, '64

Dear Friend Lottie:

It is with pleasure, aye much pleasure, that I sit me down to avail myself of the privilege you so graciously granted me, that of writing oftener. Though I am much troubled least you will not find this letter as interesting as you would like. It is much more difficult for one to write a letter off without anything to help me than it is if I have a letter to answer. I can sit down and answer a letter without the

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least trouble but when it comes to making a letter "out of whole cloth" as the old saying is, I find myself lacking. But knowing your forgiving nature I have determined to try. If I do not succeed you, I know, will overlook my failings.

Summer is almost gone and yet Atlanta and Richmond have not been taken. Why is it? Do our Generals lack men? Or do our men lack Generals? At times I think that the men lack Generals. I may be wrong but if so it will take pretty good logic to convince me of it. No nation ever had an army that fought as stubbornly as do ours. Never was there such an army marshaled together and yet they are held back, for what? I hardly believe General Grant himself can tell. If we are to believe his statements he has an army far superior in number and discipline to that of the enemy. Yet he has failed to take the place he set out for on the first of May last. And the enemy have been nearer our Capitol than he has to theirs still he says he will take Richmond. I hope he may but I want to see an official and well authenticated account of the fall of that city before I believe that he will take it. It is said that Gen. Sherman can take Atlanta at any moment. If he can why don't he do it and not stop when it is within his grasp and call for more men.

It looks very much to me like he was afraid to try to take it even when it is within his grasp. But I am not writing a very interesting letter I am afraid. I am writing first as I feel knowing at the same time that I should not feel so or write so but I cannot help it. Excuse me and I will do so no more.

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For the past week we have had a splendid shower every day. It is nice of a warm day to have the air cooled by a refreshing shower, don't you think so?

I took a ride out in the country yesterday and got caught in a shower, that is it rained while I was gone but if I remember arightly I did not get wet. I stopped at a native's house while it was raining and came very near falling in love with one of the young ladies. There were two. But I believe I came off heart whole. I ~~cannot feel~~ have not any strange feelings than I know of.

My compliments to all.
Your friend
George L. Young