

Fort Allamacho Texas
Dec. 13th 1862

Dear Brother

I arrived safely at this Post on the 10th inst, and am very much pleased with it. I think that I shall have a very pleasant time, as there are a great many facilities for enjoyment that I did not expect to find in this uncivilized country. I wrote to Father from Brownsville, I suppose he has received the letter by this time. My passage from Brownsville up to Rio Grande Barracks was the most pleasant trip I ever had in my life, notwithstanding we had a good deal of trouble with our recruits, 169 in number, I was Officer of the Day whilst at Brownsville, and although I ~~used~~ every exertion to prevent the men getting drunk there was too many of them for me to watch, and the sentinels would not do their duty unless I was near to watch them, the consequence was that about a dozen of the men got drunk and became so boisterous that we were obliged to borrow muskets from the Capt. of the boat and arm the guard, as the whole detachment was without arms. Shortly after we left Brownsville I had a man put in charge of the guard and gave the Sargt. of the guard orders to keep him quiet, but he was

afraid to take the proper means to keep him quiet, so I took him in hand myself, I ordered him to sit down, and as he did not do it I took him by the collar and set him down, but he jumped up immediately and made some impatient remark, but he had no sooner got it out of his mouth, than I set him down with a vengeance, by hitting him a pop under the left eye, he did not attempt to get up the second time but remained quiet all the rest of the afternoon a particular friend of his, however, upon hearing that he had been knocked down came up and commenced blustering around, in the mean time I had had the Sargt of the guard changed, and the new Sargt. ordered him below, but instead of going he attacked the Sargt. with a club, as he passed me I drew my sabre and fetched him a lick over the head the Sargt. hit him at the same time on the other side of the head, and before we got through with him, his beligerant spirit was quite subdued, although I used my sabre to considerable advantage, the worst hurt man was the one I hit with my fist, he could not see out of one of his eyes for about a week. I was very sorry to have to resort to such harsh means to keep the men quiet, but I had been very lenient all day, and as

road as I found that kindness and forbearance
had ceased to be a virtue" I came down
on them like a thousand of brick. I was
very much amused to see the passengers take
themselves out of the way when we commenced
slashing our ~~swords~~ swords around.

We left 85 Infy. Recruits at Ringgold
Barracks, and brought the remainder of the
detachment to Fort McIntosh, and then sent
them to their Reg. in charge of Lt. J. B. Green.
The distance from Ringgold Bar. to this
place is one hundred and twenty miles.
It took us 6 days to march it. I enjoyed
the trip very much, although I had a great deal
to attend to. For I was the only 2^d Lt. that Capt.
Wallace would trust with any important business.
And he always placed me in charge of the train
when he took a nap in the wagon, no matter
whether I was officer of the day or not. I
have made a very favorable impression upon
Capt. Wallace, and as I will be promoted to his
Company I think I shall get along very well.
I do not know that I ever saw a man that
I liked so well, or so short an acquaintance
as I do Capt. Wallace. His wife too is a very
pleasant lady, and does every thing in her
power to please those around her.

I am at present act. Post Adjt. in place
of Lt. L. B. Green who is absent on detached duty.
I think, however, that ~~that~~ Capt. Wallace
intends to make me Post Adjt. If he does
I will have a fine opportunity to show off
my military spirit.

I shall have to go out on a twenty
day scout the second of next month, and
I expect that my time will be so much
taken up with my duties, that I will not
be able to write to you very often, but in case
anything should happen to me you would
be informed immediately, so do not give
yourself any uneasiness if you do not hear
from me as often as you would like to.

I have a great deal more to say
but have not time to say it, as I have several
other letters to write. So give my love to all
our family and write to me as soon as you
get this letter direct to me at Fort McIntosh
via Corpus Christi and I will get it. I have not
received a letter from home since I left N.Y.
city. and I was very much disappointed
at not finding any letters here for me
when I arrived.

Your affectionate Brother
Chas. K. Meade.