

Fort-Columbus Gore Island
Oct: 18th 1852

Dear Brother

I have no doubt you think that I am either very busy, or very negligent about writing, but indeed you are very much mistaken. for I have not done a single bit of duty since I reported myself ready for duty, which was on the 30th ult. And I ~~at~~ have been so peculiarly situated as to make it almost impossible for me to write. I think however that hereafter I can promise to be a little more punctual

I am now safely ensconced in very comfortable quarters at the Island. I am living with my old roommate Geo L Hartuff, who has been attached for the present to Comp. M. 4th Art. During a day or two previous to our coming over from the city. Mr Hartuff was detailed as a Gen. Can. 1. Martiel. and the two

As the task of purchasing the furniture for
our room devolved upon me. I hope I
shall never have to buy furniture again
at least with a limited amount of money
as in the present case. We each contributed
twenty dollars, and it took me about three
days hard work to lay it out so as to get
the articles that were absolutely necessary
and even now our room looks more
like a barn than a dwelling house, the
rooms however are very comfortable, so
we can get along until we find out how
long we are going to stay here. If we stay
all winter we are going to have our room
carpeted, and fixed up nicely. As far as
edibles are concerned I get along very
well. I have gained the Mrep and pay
from fifteen to twenty five dollars per
month for board according to the month
in which we live. I have nothing at all
to do but make myself as comfortable
as possible and take things as they come
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here is a sample of army life. I will be
so long before a twelve months have passed
that I will have to take my meals in bed
I think, however, that when I get to my
company I will have a little livelier time
at least I will have more to do, and
learn more about my profession.

I have been to West Point twice
since I left home. My last visit there
was a very pleasant one. I spent most of
my time at Capt. Smith's. I took tea at
Capt. Smith's a week ago last evening. The
Madam made herself very agreeable indeed
as she always does. I think she is the
prettiest and most pleasant woman I ever
saw Lillie Baguet not excepted. If you
see Mr. Abbat tell him that his son
is well, and getting along very well in his
studies.

I enjoyed myself very well while
I stayed in the City, but I began to get
tired of it before I left. I visited all
the principal theatres, I saw Forest

in the characters of Hamlet Othello
& Verginius, and was very much pleased
with his style of acting. I have also
seen the inimitable Burton in several
pieces, but was particularly pleased
with him in the character of Sir Oliver
in the School for Scandal. But what
pleased me most was the dancing of
Sato & Pougand. They are both extremely
beautiful and bring down showers of
banquets every time they appear. I
intend to have gone and heard Madam
Santag Albani sing, but the house
was always so crowded that I kept
putting it off until it was too late.

I see I have nearly finished
this sheet of paper so I will bring
my letter to a close. Do not forget
to write to me as soon and as often
as you can. Give my love to all our
family, and tell Father that I will
write to him again in a few days.

Truly your Brother
Chas. Woods