

as Board-guard but they didn't choose
to have them for some reason. They
were there four weeks, they sailed from
there in a sailing vessel called Perky Lind
but it proved to be a poor pestle bit - was calu-
-lated for freight and was badly ventilated and
they were very much crowded! They got to
Fishes House and three companies
were taken off and put on the Montebello

Edward was very much pleased with the
change it was a larger vessel and not so
many soldiers on board and besides they had got
a nice commissary I heard that they treated the
so bad on the other vessel that they got sick and
threatened to take command of the vessel themselves
and they had to do better. Edward thought they
would fare pretty well on board the vessel

I must stop writing for I have got another
letter to write. Most anxious that as soon as
convenient - and believe me soon - your affec-
tionate
Sister Mary

Sunday Jan 25th 1863

Dear Brother S.

I received your letter last
week and intended to have answered it right-
away but something happened that I couldn't.
I don't feel much like writing tonight - to prepare
yourself to read a letter not worth answering.
You wanted me to send you my picture I
hadn't any that I could send in - a letter very
well so I had some taken hope you will like
hadn't any that I could send in - a letter very
well so I had some taken hope you will like
it. It isn't so handsome as it might be but

Transcription:

[writing sideways at top of letter]
as Provost Guard but they didn't choose
to have them for some reason. They
were there four weeks. They sailed from
there in a sailing vessel called Jenny Lind
but it proved to be a poor vessel it was calcu-
-lated for freight and was baldy ventilated and
they were very much crowded. They Got to
Fortress Monroe and three companies
were Taken off and put on the Montebello
Edward was very much pleased with the
change it was a larger vessel and not so
many soldiers on board and besides they had got
a new commissary I heard that they treated them
so bad on the other vessel that they rose and
threatened to take command of the vessel themselves
and they had to do better. Edward thought they
would fare pretty well on board this vessel
I must stop writing for I have got another
letter to write Please answer this as soon as
convenient and believe me ever Your affec
Sister Mag

[Main body of letter]

Sunday Jan 25th 1863

Dear Brother L,

I received your letter last
week and intended to have answered it right
away but something happened that I couldn't.
I dont feel much like writing tonight so prepare
yourself to read a letter not worth answering.
You wanted me to send you my picture I
hadn't any that I could send in a letter very
well so I had some taken hope you will like
it. It isn't so handsome as it might be but
perhaps you will think just as much of it as
though it were handsomer You know I

am the plainest- and the ugliest- sister you
have got; but- I hope the time will come when
I shall be better. I begun this year with a
determination that I would try and lead a
better life. But I am so fearful that I shall
fall out- by the way that I hardly dare let
my good resolutions be known. I havn't seen
Emmie since before Thanksgiving. William came
down after me to go up there and spend Thank-
sgiving but I thought I should miss Edward so
much to go up there that I had rather stay at
home. His time will be half out- next Monday
and I am so glad. He felt very bad to go
for you know he is an awful coward and he
was always willing to own it. I told him if
they only knew him they wouldn't take him
on no consideration. He was afraid he might
be drafted and he thought- he couldn't leave
us so well provided for if he was, and he
got the chance to go as cook and he didn't dare
us so well provided for if he was, and he
got the chance to go as cook and he didn't dare
stay. Do you think he will be obliged to fight-

Transcription:

am the plainest and the ugliest sister you have got, but I hope the time will come when I shall be better. I begun this year with a determination that I would try and lead a better life. But I am so fearful that I shall fall out by the way that I hardly dare let my good resolutions be known. I havn't seen Emmie since before Thanksgiving William came down after me to go up there and spend Thanksgiving but I thought I should miss Edward so much to go up there that I had rather stay at home. His time will be half out next Monday and I am so glad. He felt very bad to go for you know he is an awful coward and he was always willing to own it. I told him if they only knew him they wouldn't take him on no consideration He was afraid he might be drafted and he thought he couldn't leave us so well provided for if he was, and he got the chance to go as cook and he didn't dare stay. Do you think he will be obliged to fight I feel so bad for fear he will be obliged to go into the ranks. How do you have your cooking

done do each company have a cook. Please tell me
for I want to know very much. I suppose you
will pity me to think I am so foolish and
selfish but I cant help it; He is a Dear good
Husband and I feel as though I could not loose
him now untill I can make some atonement for
past unkindness. I feel that I havnt done my
duty to him nor to any one else. I wish I could
look back with less regret but it is gone never to
return and all I can do is to try and live different
in future. Edward sailed from Fortress Monroe
a week ago last Friday they expect to go to New
Orleans. He wasn't with those that put in to Hilton
Head Head there were only two company's of the
Regt in that vessel they went from New
York in the steamer Niagara she proved to be
an old condemned steamer that used to run
in the Spikes but she had been laying at Charlotte
Dock for two years after seeing eighteen years hard
labor but last summer a man bought her for
two years after seeing eighteen years hard
labor but last summer a man bought her for
nine thousand dollars with the mowed bushes

Transcription:

done do each company have a cook. Please tell me for I want to know very much. I suppose you will pity me to think I am so foolish and selfish but I cant help it. He is a Dear good Husband and I feel as though I could not loose him now untill I can make some atonement for past unkindness. I feel that I havn't done my duty to him nor to anyone else. I wish I could look back with less regret but it is gone never too return and all I can do is to try and live different in future. Edward sailed from Fortress Monroe a week ago last Friday they expect to go to New Orleans. He wasn't with those that put in to Hilton Head Head there were only two company's of the Reg^t in that vessel they went from New York in the steamer Niagara she proved to be an-old condemned steamer that used to run in the Lakes but she had been laying it Charlotte Dock for two years after seeing eighteen years hard labor but last summer a man bought her for nine thousand dollars withe the avowed purpose of using her for a market boat around in the water of N.Y. but she was taken and

chartered to government for ten thousand dollars
a month and her fuel found to carry troops she
hadn't got a great ways before she began to leak
and the soldier made a fuss and the Col said
they shouldn't go any farther until she was exam-
ined, and by examining her they found some of
her main timbers almost entirely rotted off. The
sailors said if they hadn't had pleasant weather
they would all have gone to the bottom, They run
up Delaware Bay and anchored off Philadelphia
The inspecting officer came on board and condem-
ned her and didn't consider her safe anchored
in the River. The Philadelphians heard how
they were situated and built new barracks and
invited them on shore. They said they would
keep them free of all expense to the Government
as long as they stayed. They will always remember
the people of that city I guess, They had everything
done for them that could be. There were 5 companies
of the fifteenth there they took quite a fancy to them
done for them that could be. There were 5 companies
of the fifteenth there they took quite a fancy to them
calling them the best Regt that had been there

Transcription:

chartered to government for ten thousand dollars a month and her fuel found to carry troops she hadn't got a great way before she began to leak and the soldier made a fuss and the Col said they shouldn't go any further until she was examined, and by examining her they found some of her main timbers almost entirely rotted off. The sailors said if they hadn't had pleasant weather they would all have gone to the bottom. They run up Delaware Bay and anchored off Philadelphia. The inspecting officer came on board and condemned her and didn't consider her safe anchored in the River. The Philadelphians heard how they were situated and built new barrack and invited them on shore. They said they would keep them free of all expense to the Government as long as they stayed. They will always remember the people of that city I guess. They had everything done for them that could be. There were 5 companies of the fiftieth there they took quite a fancy to them calling them the best Regiment that had been through the city. They sent in a petition to the War department to have them serve out there time there