

Camp John Manley
Stafford C.H. May 12th, 1863

Dear friends at home

It is with pleasure that I drop you these few lines to let you know that we got our pay to day and enclosed you will find a check for forty dollars which you will get cashed and if you need it use it and if not put it at interest I am in hopes that we shall not have to stay more than two or three months longer There is a great deal of talk of about our being nine months men I dont hardly believe it but hope it is so I would like to have you tell me if you hear any thing about it at home I believe if we only had some one to intercede for us and look into the matter a little we might get out of this in nine months I am well at present and hope that these few lines will find you the same Give my respects to all inquiring friends and believe me ever your affectionate Son

Thaddeus L. Reynels

N.B. Kiss Clara for me and reserve for yourselves a portion of my love I am going to write to Kate No more at present T. L. Reynels

P.S. If you have not put my money at interest again after the first six months were up I wish you would do so for six months more and oblige yours truly Thad Please send me in your next a stout fish line half a dozen different sized fish Hooks and some stamps Eels are very plenty here to day I had some fresh shad for dinner they were nice Thad

[Thaddeus L. Reynels, musician, Company I, 154th New York Volunteers]