

Camp near Stafford Courthouse
February 9, 1863

Dear Frant,

You must excuse me for not writing sooner. As you see from the heading, we have changed our place of abode since I wrote last. We have had to march through mud and rain and build a new house with a fireplace in it, and it has kept us pretty busy.

The report is that we have got to leave in two or three days on an expedition to Charleston, but we can tell nothing about it until we get started, so we do not worry about it at all. For my part, I can travel my three years out and fight three years more besides. But I want it to COUNT. Let our head men fight the Rebels; and not fight amongst themselves. I think that if our generals take the right course NOW, and move cautious and not let the Rebs get the start of them-- and when they DO strike, strike with all their force, that this rebellion will soon be closed.

I was thinking this morning about how I would like to spend ONE pleasant Sunday at home once more. Oh, would it not be bliss to be free and happy again. I get a little downhearted sometimes when I think how I am sold out for three years, but I guess it will come out all right.

I promised to write a better letter, but have failed. Write soon, and remember me as your true friend.

Edgar S.

{*The Jamestown Sun*, Tuesday, July 4, 1961}