

Or. Mr. Dept. 154th N.Y.V.
Savannah, Ga.
Jan 25th 1865

Dear Frant,

With pleasure I seat myself to commune with thee. Your welcome letter of Dec 27, 1864 was rec'd yesterday. I had waited long for a word from you & began to think I should get no more letters that my friends were all dead or else moved west. every time the mail came I went down only to come away with out a word till yesterday, a letter for Shannon hallo, is it from you Sweet heart. it is a fine hand writing haint it. O yes! Says I it is from my sweet Sister, Maria has done it, dont you think so. now she can borrow up & not let any one hug her. I think Bill is sorry he came was in my tent when he got the news he said by God that takes me down, Maria's getting married. I never Should thought Hank & Delos would have got married. Helen will probably make her relatives twice glad. a few more get married & go visiting Leon will be a dull place. How do you get along. how do you pass the time. it is hard work here & there is more going on here than there. Some of the troops have been marching in Some direction ever Since we came here, but as good luck would have it we have staid right where we first landed. we are Camped where our prisoners were kept. Orzo Greely got back to the Reg't yesterday. he said he was kept on this ground a month or two last summer. his tent was not ten rods from where Billy Castens is now. three of our boys got back, two of them were taken at Gettysburg. Seventeen months with the rebs would not permit it, then send it to the blacks who followed our Army though who are destitute of every thing to make them comfortable or didnt they are Suffering for food and clothes they have ever been friendly to us & our cause. it is our duty to help them. how is it with these citizens. they are bitter as slaves towards us & would like to see every man of us Sunk. they have plenty of rice & meal & salt that is more than our favor fellows have who are penned up in their prisons. charity begins at home I believe in helping ones friends first. kindness extended to these citizens are thrown away it is casting pearls before swine when they are conquered & out of clothing & subsistence then they will come to terms easy enogh. We have been expecting to march for the last week but have not on acc't of the rain. the mud was So deep we could not move. one Division of the 15th Corps crossed the river here & got over into rice Swamp about 8 miles long the water rose to about four or five feet & a good many mules & men were drowned they came back & went down river in transports. I think we will go up towards Columbia but cant tell this is the dullest place you ever saw for a city I was down to the theatre night before last & Such a show. could get up a better one after a Spelling School, only cost

[January 25, 1865 continued]

two dollars for a ticket. every thing is awful high it costs an officer about five dollars a day to live and dress decent. The boys are all well Bill & Brad had a pudding the other night. I went down & helped them eat it. it was a splendid one. I believe I have told you about all I know. that is not much. we expect to go now to morrow so when it is cold & muddy you sit by your fire & think of me in the mud up to my knees. I cant get a good picture & so I will not get any for you would laugh at it. Please give my love to all & dont get married till I get home for your friend to ask me to the wedding. Please write soon & tell me all the news & how you like the school with No news

from your old & best friend

Edgar