

23

154th Regiment N. Y. S. Col.
Manasses Junction, Va.
August 19, 1863

My dearest Lis,

We started from our old camp at Catletts Station night before last just at dark--came on that night as far as Bristow Station--remained there until daylight the next morning--crossed Broad River and followed along the R. R. and arrived here about 5 o'clock yesterday morning. We came here in great haste to prevent the destruction of the R. R. by Whites and Mosbys and Stuarts Cavalry which was concentrated yesterday in great numbers between Haymarket and Gainesville. The 130th and 168 N. Y. Vol. were already here and one entire Division came as far as Bristow--the 2nd Brigade remained there and our Brigade came on to this place. I don't apprehend any attack here--everything looks quiet this morning. Our troops are occupying earth-works constructed by the Rebs before the 1st Bull Run battle!

We are on the very ground where the first great Rebel Army was organized and drilled--and that only a little over two years ago. Yet to look back over that bloody period seems an age--who can or would wish to recall all the details of this bloody drama that has been enacted since then--since the rebs dreamed of--aye and realized success on these very fields.

Let the newspapers, correspondents, and military critics say what they may--these works will ever remain an enduring monument to the engineering skill of Beauregard. I am free to say that they are altogether the best planned and constructed works for defense that I have seen since I came into the army.

Prof. of Parison Centre Antiquary Shop

If you think best to do so you had better send Dora to Alfred. I think I should prefer that to Randolph. Professor Love stands high in community both as a man and a teacher--but I can't forget his "putting away" his wife! There must be something inherently wrong in a man that could coolly sunder the ties that had been weaving for a dozen years? He may be all right but I should feel better to have Dora receive her instructing at some other school!

Send the Home Picture as soon as you can get it. The weather has been terribly hot--it is cooling off considerably and is now quite tolerable. I am quite well and hope you are all well. With love and kisses for self and children, I am as ever

Your affectionate

Henry