

154th Regt N. Y. I. Vol
Aug 12th 1863.

My dearest Lis.

You see the fate of my application for leave of absence! — I can't say that I was much disappointed in the result of this matter! ~~At least~~ I wanted to go home so badly & had set my heart upon it so, that I hope it ~~may~~ might pass on account of the smallness of the Regiment, & my entire uselessness here — Genl Howard has gone home on furlough which leaves Genl Schuy in command — I think if Genl Howard had been here my application would have been approved — Some of the "Powers that be here" continue every way to make the service as irksome & disagreeable as possible.

I am beat sick & home sick, but shall hardly make another application for leave while I remain — but shall resign just as soon as I can consistently. No Medical ^{Officer} can get a resignation through lately several have tried without success —

Dr Day put in his resignation to day but I think it will be returned disapproved. We shall see.

This Regiment has not been paid in a long time — The Field & Staff officers were paid the very day we started from Stafford C. H. on the 12th of June — Three Companies were paid them also. — A, B, & G. — We should have been paid

Courtesy of Dorothy Farnham DeSha

again soon after we came here - but we have seen
no paymaster yet & probably shall not until we
are mustered again for pay on the 31st of this month
- I shall then have 4^{mo} pay due me = \$643.50.

The weather is extremely hot - oppressively so -
we are encamped in brigade, in the woods - a thick
oak forest on a high ridge - Yet there is no air
stirring and we are almost sweltered.

Write often, for I more than ever need
something to cheer me while remaining idle in camp.
- I shall almost die of the blues - As a matter of
choice I had rather be placed where I should hear
the devilish and infernal shrieks of the shells
than endure this weary loneliness that is upon
me!

I embrace you all - Kiss the children for
me & remember me kindly to all who may care
to know about me.

Ever affectionately Yours,
Henry

P.S. I have heard nothing from Jimmy McFarling or any
of the boys that were taken prisoners at Gettysburg since
they were at Martinsburg Va - they were well then -
- 16 have been paroled & sent to Annapolis but I
don't know who they are. Write often - want you?
Send the picture of the House - I hear that Judge J. Brown
is dead - Did he do anything about the Academy? H.