

Highland, Stockade, La. April 22nd 1864

Dear Cousin

Your communication bearing date of March 30th came to hand yesterday afternoon it found me tough and hearty as ever and I hope those few cracked lines will find you the same in speaking about Asas death I could not find out whether he died in february or March nor I could not find out what day of the month or week he died and tell your father I could not find out the number of the Hospital that he died in Tell him I could not find out any particulars of his death whatever nor I could not find out the name of the surgeon he never died when we was there to Memphis for we should heard of it we had been here to the Regiment about two weeks when we heard of his death we came out of Fort Pickens on the afternoon of the 22nd of Feb but we did not leave until the morning of the 23rd and we arrived here to Baton Rouge on the morning of the 27th about 4 o'clock before I came away from Memphis I used to hear from him once in a while and when I heard from him he was getting along first rate but I could not get a chance to get out of the fort and got to the Hospital and another thing I did not know what Hospital he was in I tried to find out what one he was in but I could not

but after he went into the hospital i used to miss
him a good deal for he seemed like a brother to me
i tell you i and it sa used to take a good deal of
comfort together but poor fellow he has gone where there
is no more war and i can not tell how soon i
may follow him but i hope if i die i may die
in a good cause i came here to lay my life down for
my country if it was needed, i tell you Ed i have
not seen the day yet that i shall be sorry that
i enlisted but i may yet i hope i may return
safe and sound but i can not tell how soon i
may be laid in the cold clay i had heard of the
enlisting that was going on there and i think it
must be lonesome around there in Brotherhood with so
many gone but it seems that our folks are
bound to see ~~the rebellion~~ put down i tell you i am
bound to do what i can towards putting it down
i got a letter from Leo the other day and he was
well he said that he was not a going to enlist
over but he said that most all of Co. H. of
the Second Wis Cav was Veterans i got a letter
from Oscar yesterday to and he is well and
back to Virginia again the was a report came into
camp the other morning that the rebels had taken
fort pillow but i guess the report need confirmation
the old Veterans of the 4th Wis Cav left Baton Rouge
for Wis the 8th of this month and i suppose

before you get this you will have seen some of them
when the old Vets went home i was sent down
here on detached service this Stockade is about
7 miles from the City of Baton Rouge my company
is not here nor the regiment - there is three Companies
of the 4th here Co. A. D. and F. and there is a
Co of Ohio boys here i am now attached to Co. D.
and i tell you they are good boys we have plenty
of fish to eat here there is a Bayou here on the west
side of the Stockade about 30 rods and we can
catch plenty of fish in it the fish that we catch
are shullet and Catfish and these little
clivers but they call them sardones here
i guess i have written all of the news only i
am not on guard to day so we have to drill
every day about two hours on horseback and
it is nothing but fun when you write tell me
what is going on there in Brotherstown give my respects
to your folks and remember yourself and all of
the good looking girls and inquiring friends
to good day from Melville to C. M. Dick

Direct as before and write soon

X