

St Charles Hotel, New Orleans
May 22. 1864

Dear friends

Here I am comfortably situated in the St Charles Hotel, as above mentioned, where I arrived last night. On Thursday I received a special order to take my Company and bring down a lot of Rebel prisoners. I left the Army on the Red River on Friday morning and came on a steamer to here. I got the prisoners off my hands & now my men & myself are having a nice time in the City to compensate us for the hardships endured during the last month or two. We fought the enemy on Sunday, Monday & Tuesday, whipping & driving them every day. We then captured the prisoners I brought down. A Mail closes for the North this morning so I hastily write a few lines to inform you of my continued excellent men. as well as that of all my boys. We are worn down somewhat, having marched over six hundred miles but all participated in six battles and are as hearty as ever. We

1. The Rebels caught our
Mails going up and one
of our & down, I suppose they
burned some of the letters going
to and from me. I hope they
benefitted any how. I presume you
have not heard from me for a long
time & are somewhat frightened. You
do not be alarmed. I never
was more surprised in my life
than to read in the papers the ac-
counts of our actions. They are
false & incorrect. The Whipped &
died the enemy whenever he resisted
us and only the falling of the
Red River, thereby preventing our
supplies from getting up prevented the
full accomplishment of the object
of the expedition. Against this no
human foresight could have been
used. The abuse of Gen Banks
is shameful & wrong. The Rebel
Officers I brought here give him
credit for being one of the best
officers in the field. These Rebels
were nearly all Texans and composed
some perfect gentlemen. They were
highly pleased with my treatment
of them and were very sorry to

I met Capt Yard & Gaeffe
of our Regt here last night & they
informed me that they had gone
to Harrisburg while at home & taken
the responsibility of crediting my
men to Northampton County. I knew
nothing of it. Nor of their doing it
until informed by them. I am
sorry for it, but the people of Samby
had time enough to look after the
matter & attend to it. Capt Yard
tells me it was at the last moment
he had it done & thus secured two
hundred & eighty dollars a piece
for the men. This they will pay
to them today. I suppose I will be
blamed for the matter but care not.
The men are all satisfied anyhow,
& ^{will have} one hundred & eighty dollars more
in their pockets than if they had
been accredited to Samby.

We have no
news in this Regt. There will be
a change in the field officers
of our Regiment & I expect the
promotion. If a certain act oc-
curs I will get command of it.
But of this matter I want nothing

land until the matter is fixed &
settled finally. I have succeeded in
gaining the confidence of the General
as well as the Officers & men of the
Regt. This trip here was by order of
Gen Mc Millan, as a reward for the
good conduct of my Company.

one of
my wounded, Kennedy is dead. Piers,
Kramer, Walls, & Haspel are doing
well, some of them being quite well.
I have not not been able to get
any information of the missing ones.
They are, John Sterner, John W. Moore,
Sam Miller, Ed Matthews, C P Solomon,
John W. Smith. I am afraid three
of them at least have been killed.
I have written to Mr Sterner in the
matter. John was not well on the
day of the fight at Pleasant Hill. I
told him not to go in, but he would
do it & the poor fellow is lost.
God help his poor Mother.

Write soon
& direct your letters as heretofore.
I cannot tell where we will be
located, but I think the fighting
is over in this Dept for the summer.
Love to all, God Bless you

Yours
P. M. D.