

The most of this timber has been cut down by the soldiers to facilitate the defence of our Capital the greater portion of the time since we came here we have been doing garrison duty at St Alexander Franklin & Thly 2 days ago we moved our camp to where we were first stationed nearly three miles distance from the City we are now in a very pleasant country probably would be a very good agricultural soil if ~~they~~ at only had free labor We are expecting to move soon to reinforce the army of the Potomac Morris's Brigade is to be divided into 2 one of which is to be heavy Artillery to remain here to defend the city the other is to be light infantry our Col is decidedly opposed to have his regt transformed into artillery He will undoubtedly be made the Gen. of the new brigade he is entitled to it by rank in consequence of having a Commission of a prior date to any other in the brigade & for being a regular army officer while the other Col^s are not

The change of Commanders of the army is received as far as I am able to say with good feelings among both officers & men. The soldiers are not particular more selfish in their motives all we want is the man to push the war on to Richmond & we are not inclined to think McClellan was the man but we do believe that in Gen Burnside we have all the natural elements necessary to make a man equal to the task before him I do say that there was not that amount of confidence reposed in McClellan that there was before the last battles at Harpersburg

The result of the last election is a powerful instrument
in deciding this war All the republicans are laboring to
do is to show the Democrats that they power enough to
crush out this accursed rebellion there has never yet
since the beginning of this war such vigorous means been
put forth as at present I f one officer leaves his regt without
permission for a half day he is discharged & sent home with
disgrace even 2 miles distance from camp is a sufficient
ground to dismiss a man from the army

The health of the army is good there has been but 2 deaths
in my regt since we came here The weather is beautiful
in the extreme it is as warm as in Sept in N.Y State
I would like to have you write to me the first leisure
opportunity I would very much like to hear from the
School & how the new teacher is liked I think that
I feel some interest in that school that I could feel
in no other



Give my best respects to Mr Talbot's people I met him
in Albany when our regt passed through there but did
not have time to ~~talk~~ talk with him Tell him that if
he feels rich & has got \$1000 to spend that it cannot
be better spent than in coming down here & visit the
Army I send my best wishes to all the friends in that
vicinity

You must excuse all mistakes for we have no time to
correct we are generally well off if we write without any correction
we generally write on a flat stone or a stump for a
board is out of the question unless we steal it & as the
soldiers are very honest fellows we have to do without
money is out of the question there is hardly money enough
in the regt to buy a glass of Beer we have had our day since
we came here

Respectfully Yours E. Kisley
1st Lt Co D 11th Regt N.Y. Vol
Washington DC