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Document: *Letter to Lillie July 29th 1863*

Transcript:

Near Vicksburg Miss, July 29th 1863

My Dear little Lillie:

I suppose you think that I am very careless for not replying to the very nice little letter you write to me on the 2nd of July, but I know you will excuse me when you know how busy I have been ever since I received it.

I was very much pleased to receive your letter. I showed it to several of your friends (including Capt. Tyson & Capt. Trout) and they were all very much pleased to hear that you were well and to know that you had not forgotten them. They desire me to send their love to you and to say to you that they would like to see you again.

A great many of our Boys were sick, but I find they are now improving. Major Kelsey, Capt. Fessler and Mr. McClure were all sick but now they are all pretty well again. Tell Mrs. Mullin that Amos is quite well. And you can also tell Aunt Lizzie that Howard is quite well again. Tell Mrs. Hinkle that John is well and if you see any of Hostellers, tell them that Andrew is very well. Also, please tell Mrs. Welsh and family that Thomas is in perfect health but is a little scorched by the hot sun and that he would like very well to have Pound cake, Ice cream or something else very good to eat – if she could spare it for him.

Your friend Matthew Cowden requested me to send his love to you too. I begin to feel a little jealous, but I guess there will still be room for me to send a little love to you of my own.

We are still waiting here for Steamboats to come and take us up to Kentucky. I am expecting the Boats every day. I am very anxious to get the boys away from here because it is so very hot and sickly here.

If you see Mrs. Myers or Sallie, tell them that Alfred has been quite ill for a few days but he is now out of danger and quite lively. Jacob Myers (Mrs. Robt. Hamiltons nephew) also was very sick but he came back to the Company from the Hospital yesterday nearly well. Henry Wike is almost well. Mr. [Gasrigner] is getting well – fast. And your old friend Larry is again right well, but he is very thin and weak. I don't think he would be able to pull you down street in a carriage just now. It rained very hard here yesterday and this morning the atmosphere is as cool and pleasant as we could wish for.

Kiss Blant, Effie, Mazie Alice Maggie Ann and Mamma for me. Give my love to Jim and every body else – be a good girl and write soon.



Your loving Papa
Thos. Welsh

Wm Lory is getting better

Analysis: Wiggin

The large number of friends Lillie seems to have among officers and men suggests that she must have accompanied Annie during her February visit to Newport News.

Scope and Content:

Handwritten letter from Thomas Welsh to his daughter, Lillie. From Near Vicksburg, Mississippi. Letter expresses Welsh's pleasure at having received a letter from Lillie and includes the names of officers he has shared it with. Welsh notes the extreme heat of the camp; various health issues with some of the soldiers; and his hope to soon be relocating to Kentucky. He sends his love to all and asks Lillie to be a good girl and write soon.

