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Siles, S. S., Letter to Mary Knight, September 20, 1863

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Camp Der Sep 20 1863 There year to hear from you and very line William has you horsed hope he will down yer well you have Inite a Trip & Know you where I wain the appropriate a but still it how rimely better that he was already at home pearcily a clay but what love homenic Concer le the Sulpent Communas to Lee t In a tak hir Ausband that is Lich It Hince but Silum is it the Offereurs Will police them, if it flat William of Moule Live Citificater buch mitil I was governell I' Will Some Shaw not of Stand Long in at Home 14 have had a berry heavy Storme our Justs ware farry old to Much Noon f. now Searcely a Man Las a Sint that Will deep of any Vain the Imarten elasten Lugs he Layer in Lavargent to get Tents but facia Cast bylly Says they Will be no prose Just tobe had, at Least Caft Merein totalin Lo, il Luffreip We Stoy on the Cost the will make

Huto of affraid the are about player out It to Myopmion definer greately on the expected fight in Norten gu, if the get topoper this est will be berry aft of Stast Desertion a guin & A Way your Am amey Nome of our from has Return & I himle be glace if all bonte Come and am apence nume Sime times almost on any teams but God knowed I know one elec how orther it will blose Soon Atot a Trick tous fift to get in the min Son 45, 1, Tota Leveral, it fors a trick take they Said the know Wo langer of her going in Long at a time il Toula sike berry much to Su following but it is entirely out of my Power in flen are, berry Licht, Til frame Some will hie, Our fase is berry hard Tollared we don't est any thing but But & Come hugh Lele William Attrice me, my helet is not very good of Lugion Very Munch With my Breust I have Some Lever, from it the pren Lug I fall of verry Last, but I continue to do dring amaet Ordering Lergent distille it herry much Writ. Som tall the news Trick Littles

Camp Lee, Sep 20 1863

Dear Mary, your kind favor was rec & was very glad to hear from and very glad William has got home. I hope he will soon get well. You have quite a trip. I know you were sorely disappointed but still it was much better that he was already at home. Scarcely a day, but what some woman comes to the different commands to see & try to get her Husband that is sick off home. But seldom is it the officers will notice them. If I was William I would send certificates back until I was good [&] well. I am sorry I have not of staid longer at home. We have had a very heavy storm. Our tents were very old & much worn & now scarcely a man has a tent that will keep off any rain. The Quarter Master says he tried in Savannah to get tents but failed. Capt Wylly [Thomas S. Wylly] says there will be no more tents to be had at least Capt Mercer[?] told him so. I suppose if we stay on the coast we will make...

...huts. I am afraid we are about played out. It is my opinion depends greatly on the expected fight in Northern Ga if we get whooped there, it will be very apt to start desertion again & away goes our army. Some of our men has return & I would be glad if all would come in. I am peace man, some times almost on any terms, but God knows & know one else how or when it will close soon. What a trick was fixt to get in the men over 45. I told several it was a trick, but they said they know no danger of our going in long at a time. I would like very much to see William but it is entirely out of my power.

Our men are verry sickly and I fear some will die. Our fare is very hard & scarce we don't eat any thing but Beef & cornmeal.

Tell William to writ me. My health is not verry good[.] I suffer verry much with my Breast & I have some fevers from it, the Men say I fall off verry fast, but I continue to do duty am act Orderly Sergent. dislike it very much.

Write soon & all the news Truly SS Siles