

Rome New York
July 30th 1862
Friend Harris

Having arrived at last at my destination and having had a good fair rest I will redeem my promise I made to you when I left by sending my first instalment of letters. I wrote to Chuck in Philadelphia and nothing but fatigue prevented me from writing to you.

I will now however give you a brief account of my life and adventures since leaving St Augustine and the land of "gallinippers". The "Gen Burnside" arrived in good order at Hilton Head, (touching at Fernandina) on Saturday about 8 ½ A.M. T'was there I first heard of McClellands defeat before Richmond. An order had come the night before to have Stevens Brigade sent up to Ft Monroe to reinforce McClellan. The 28th Mass & 79th N.Y. were on board the steamship Mississippi and she was to sail Saturday afternoon. So I rushed arround and got an order for transportation and went on board. I was very fortunate to get a berth and a seat at the first table. I only paid the same as the officers \$1.00 per day. We arrived at Ft Monroe Tuesday morning and wednesday noon I was in Philadelphia where I stayed thirty six hours I stopped at the Continental Hotell which is called the finest hotell in the United States. Visited the Mint, Independence Hall, Penitentiary, Fairmount and the Girard College. I then went on to New York and stayed long enough to see all the lions. Visited all the places of amusement &c. Then I went up the Hudson as far as Albany by steamer, seeing all the romantic scenery. At Albany I took the cars for Rome via N.Y. Central road. Wher[e] I arrived Saturday night at 11 P.M. Stayed all night at the Stanwix Hall Hotell and Sunday morning I dropped in on the folks about 10 oclock in the forenoon causing about as much confusion as a bomb shell had exploded in the camp. They were delighted to see me. Since I arrived here I have stayed in the house nearly all the time. Have also had another billious attack. My liver is in a bad state I am affid [afraid]. I am as yellow as safron. Day before yestarday we all went over to Trenton Falls about 12 miles from here. Had a pair of horses and had a old continental bum. You have of course heard of Trenton Falls. The scenery is more grand and picturesque than Niagara but of course the falls are not so grand. They are a series of cascades falling into a ravine of the most beautiful description. Next week we leave for Saratoga and Niagara. Shall arrive in New Hampshire about the 1st of September. Now old boy, what are you about? Write a good long letter telling me all about matters and things. Regards to [D]r Greeley and the boys. Tell Greeley that I will write to him soon. As ever believe me

Yours Truly
[J.T.H.]