

such sail vessels as he may de-
signate & assist in getting them
to Hatteras, if no assistance is
needed make your way to Hatteras
& help them over the bar and
then report to the Adm. In. U.S.A.
at Hatteras

Respectfully

C. G. Sawtelle
Capt. & Agt. M.

We then left the office & return-
ed to the boat. At 12 noon we took
the "John Farnum" in tow, - the
only vessel left in the Roads, &
on board of which are the Col. &
his staff, - & proceeded on our way.

At 2 P.M. we passed Capt. Henry.
We ran all night until 11.30 P.M.
& then hove to off Chisernucomico.

There are no lights on the beach,
& we could not tell exactly how
far we had come. At 4.30 this
morning we started, & got to

On board U. S. Str. Achilles.
Hatteras Inlet, A.C.
May 7th 1862.

Dear Man

The mails leave here just
as often as a steamer does, & arrive
in the same regular & exact man-
ner. I am going to write to night
on the chance that the Postmaster
will send worth tomorrow, & thus
take you latest news of the "Flag-
ship of the Hatteras Expedition".

This is a queer country. Sand &
water in equal proportions, six
of one & half a dozen of the other.
I am rather further South than
I thought of coming when I left
N. Y., but the further I can go, &
the more I can see, the better I
shall like it. I wrote father a
long letter on Sunday night, and

put a P.S. on the next morning. I didn't get a chance to mail it until Tuesday though. Monday it rained all day long. Col. Mix came on board about noon, & we took a bay schooner in tow & went round to the different vessels under his charge, & supplied them all with forage. At night we ran up above the fort & anchored in the same place as on the night before. I kept a long watch, for the Inerrimus, but in vain. I hope now that she won't come out until we get back. On Tuesday we went on shore in the morning, & got the papers, bought some clo'es, etc. It is queer that although but about fifteen miles from Fort Mifflin, we could get no particulars of the evacuation, & all we heard came through the N. Y. Herald. There was a splendid westerly wind all day, & our entire fleet got

under way, & went off on their own account before noon. I went up to the Dr. Ins. office with Capt. A. & Col. Mix, to get our orders. The first ones we received were merely to tow our vessels outside of Cape Henry, cast them off, & return to the fort. Col. Mix however got them changed. He told Capt. Sawtelle that he wanted us to help him over the bar, & that if he could have the Achilles, he would give up all the other boats, - the Saturn, Maryland, & John Farnum. After some little talking Capt. Sawtelle gave in, & made out, & handed to us an order, of which the following is a copy. "

H. Monroe May 6th/62.

Master of Steam Tug Achilles.

Captain
you will be under the orders of
Col. Mix & N. Y. Cavalry to tow

also, on shore, & he invited us
over to see him. If I can get time
I shall go over. I saw where
the shells from the Fambrolo
struck, & where the walls were
knocked down & blown up.

Several of the guns you remem-
ber were dismounted at the
time of the bombardment;
most of them have been re-
placed, but two or three are
yet to be mounted. The fort
could not be held an hour
against gunboats, for there
is no way to avoid the shells.

The whole place is merely
an earthwork, & there are no
casemates, or coverings. The
beach here is covered with wrecks.
I counted eight close to us this
afternoon. Most of them are
the vessels lost when Burn-
side landed. I think I got

5.-
Cape Hatteras about half past
seven. At 9 A.M. we were board-
ed by a Hatteras Pilot, & he brought
us in over the bar & up inside
& behind the fort. He reported
to Dr. M. Ellis, - or rather he came
alongside & spoke us, - & from
him we received order to "hold
on for the present." Capt. Andrew
& I took the boat & went over to
the Farnum to pay them a visit.

We brought the Col. back with
us, & kept him all the morning,
until he had to start for Newbern.

When the vessel left they all gave
three cheers for the Achilles, three
for Capt. Kennerly, & three for
Dr. Sturges, - the band struck up,
& as we parted. I have been with
the officers of the 3^d N.Y. Cavalry,
a great deal of the time for the
last week, & most of them are first
rate fellows. Col. Mix promised

to send me some research articles
before long - a flay rifle, etc, &c. -
but whether he ever thinks of
it again I doubt. If he does re-
member it he will do it, ~~part~~ of
course he will be very busy now,
getting his regiment in the field.

If a boy does come to the office
or house for me, please take
good care of it. ~~for me~~ This
afternoon we got orders to run
down to Hatteras Is. & bring
in what schooners we could
find. We picked up one, &
got back, & to anchor at 6 P.M.

We are under orders to go out
again tomorrow morning early
and I expect the pilot off about
six o'clock. I presume we
shall stay here until all the
vessels have arrived, & tow them
over the Bar. We draw too much
water to go over the bulkhead

or we should have been sent up
to Newburn with the Col. I am
sorry, for I should like to see
Ft. Macon. The weather was
beautiful coming down, hardly
any sea, & not a very heavy
swell. If it will only stay
as good as this we ask nothing
better. This evening after tea
I landed with Capt. Hopkins,
the pilot, & engineer, & went up
to Fort Hatteras. The officers
were very polite, showed us
everything, took us into their
quarters, & kept us there for
a couple of hours. To-morrow
they are coming off to visit us in
town. The fort is nearly square
& now mounts twenty-two guns
(full number thirty) It is
garrisoned by one company of
the 4th Regt. We met the
officer in charge of Ft. Clark

got home. I don't know when
we shall see Washington again,
but I hope I shall find a big
bundle of letters from home
waiting for me, when I do get
there. It is nearly two weeks
since I heard. I presume we
shall stop at Fortress Monroe
going back, so you can send
a letter there, - I may get it.

All important letters how-
ever had better go to Aunt Kate
as usual, for they had better
wait a little while than be
lost. The boat is in pretty
good trim, & all hands well,
except one man, who is getting
better. If we stay here any
time, - two or three days, I will
write again. For the present
Good Night & Good Bye

Always your loving son

Appleton.

a pretty cheap dinner for seventeen men to day. I bought some four bushels of Oysters from a fisherman, who came alongside about half-past eleven the whole costing \$1.75. All hands went to work, & but very few went down to dinner. They were splendid by ones, some of them five inches across. A man could not eat more than a couple of Oyster. I can't get fresh meat here, so fish supplies its place once or twice a week. One of the boys shot a goony, or a bird with a name something like it, this morning. He only wounded it, & caught it after a long row. It is alive now & he has it up on deck. It is a beauty, large as a goose, white, with black wings. I don't think it can live however until we