

here from nine to half past
and stay until about three
& go to dinner. If I have any
business any where, I go out
& see to it when I feel like
it, and come back ditto. In
the afternoon I go off for a walk,
and get to the office about
six. The Clerk & myself
are the only ones here then
and we generally talk over what
is going on & cut out the work
for the next day. The Ad.
Men come in to report about
seven, and then we give them
directions &c, and let them
go. We generally have letters
or Requisition or Receipts - or some-
thing of the sort by the evening
mail, & often do more work from
six to ten than during all the rest

Ordnance Office
Dep't. of the Gulf
New Orleans. Jan 13th 1863

My Dear Mum

I don't get quite as much
time to write now as I did last win-
ter, but I have sent you letters every
week so far, and shall try to write
by every steamer. Their days of sailing
are very uncertain, sometimes three
will go in one week, and then it
may be two weeks or so, before the
next one is ready. I have been very
busy getting things into shape, for
since I dismissed all the old hands,
& put others in to fill their places
I have had to take sole charge of
all the storehouses. I have had trouble
with some of my new men too, and
I think it probable that I shall
have to send some of them away
to Fort Pickens, or some place

where there isn't any Whiskey
to be got. Two of the old clerks
have left me also, or are going
to leave, & I have had to apply
to Gen Banks for Extra Duty
Men to be detailed for this Dept.

Altogether I have my hands
Full. The former Dr. Off. kept
no books whatever, and it is the
hardest job that ever was,
to find out what we have on
hand and what has been stolen
from the Storehouses. I can't
see how he ever got along with
his papers, & I know he will have
trouble when they get time to
examine the accounts at
Washington. That is his look
out thing. Lieut. Hill is the
pleasantest man to work for
& he with that there is here.

He leaves nearly everything to
me to do as I think best, but

at the same time examine all
the accounts which I give him,
& seems bound to do his duty if
any one does. All letters are
handed to me or laid on my desk
& I examine them, & either attend
to & file them, or give them to
him for approval. I sign
his name to letters addressed to
out officers when he is out or
is busy, but generally in that case
sign my own with the character
"D.D. & Co. & Co." He has a horse
& Puggy assigned to him & I often
take it when I am going any dis-
tance, which is very jolly. The
horse is one of the quietest in
the city and I mean to try him
out on the Shell Road some leisure
day. The only trouble with him
is, a very hard mouth, & it some-
times takes all my strength to
hold him in. I generally get

is all right now. I have
been & am, quite well in
other respects & hope to
continue so. I wrote to
Lottie last week but not
having the least idea
where she is staying this
winter, I sent the letter
to Aunt Catherine, Case in
Beach St. I presume it
will turn up in time.

You don't know what a
convenience those big
pockets in my over coat
are. I can carry two days
rations in each, & other stores
in addition, & thus save a heavy
back. Tell Mary Cady with my love
that at least a dozen officers have
asked when I got them made.

Remember me to Mary Ann & Brad
Set. My love to father & grandmother
Russ & Ed. Affectionately, App

about it agree with me.

There are a great many
here who were with him in
the Potomac & James, & they
all believe in him. I am
very sorry to hear of the loss
of the Monitor. How did it
happen? Beyond the mere fact
we have heard nothing.

If you have not already sent me
a map of this region please
do so. I want one with all
the forts, railroads, little towns
camps &c around New Orleans.

Has Mr. Blunt published
any charts of this country?
I should like to get maps of
Port Hudson, Vicksburg &c
also, & of Mobile. It is im-
possible to buy them here even
for official use, for they are
not to be had. Gen Banks private
Sec. was down here to day

hunting for a map of Georgia & it could not be found in the bookstore. The currency here is in a queer state. There are lots of little tickets worth five cents each, quantities of cut bills, pieces of paper &c which pass for money. Some five dollar bills are cut in two, the 5 scratched out with a pen, thus \$, and on the other side a 3 written. - the bill then being worth \$1.00.

There is a good deal of feeling about the Postage currency for it is seen so seldom that people don't know what it is. I was offered ten cents in change in it the other day, the store-keeper asking me if I would take it, & saying that he was entirely out of change or he would not offer it to me. The cocks

here have very queer ideas of time. Instead of crowing in the morning like Christians, they crow all night long.

I have often heard them when walking home at eleven or twelve at night. I have been troubled somewhat with my leg since I wrote. You remember the fever left a bad swelling upon the bone, which I increased by a fall while in Boston. For a few days last week it became very painful & I went in to see Dr Alexander the Medical Director, about it. He lanced it twice quite deeply, & relieved me entirely for the time.

I hope now it will get well without further bother.

It was never bad enough to prevent my going about, & it

were hourly in expectation of an attack. One was from the 8th Vermont, one 21st Ind. & one from Gen Weitzel in command. I have sent word back that I will forward by first train in the morning.

There were Extras out last night announcing that Gen Mc Clellan had again been appointed to Command.

The news comes through the Mississippi papers, so we can not tell as to its correctness but I do hope it is so. I always said he would be recalled to his position. He is the only Gen I have the least faith in, & I believe he is the only man who can save us. Most all the officers I have heard speak

of the day. Pen Hill goes off when we get things and I having no where to go, generally stay here & write & study until I get tired, & then I go home & to bed - or if I am very lazy I sleep here.

This is an account of the days going in general, but not a day passes but what something occurs to vary events more or less. I have been looking round for some time to find another boarding house, for the one I am now in is too expensive. I have been to at least twenty places, & the terms always are from ten to twenty dollars per week. I think I shall make arrangements with the officers of the 18th N. Y. Battery to live with them. They have a house on Annunciation Square but have just moved in, & have hardly got settled. I shall be able to tell

in a few days how it will be.

I went down to see them this afternoon, & after tea we took the horses & rode out towards Carrollton about two miles.

I'm rather stiff this evening in consequence. Coming home

we got caught in a drenching shower & had to gallop through the streets in the dark - going it blind! We got safely back

I'm astonished to say. By the Bio Bio which arrived on Sunday I got five letters from A.M. & was glad enough to receive the same. One was a note from Russ for which I am much obliged. I shall write him soon as I get a little time. I did not receive several letters which I know were sent, but I think it probable that they are upon some other vessel & have not yet

turned up. The Roanoke is due tonight & I presume will be in tomorrow or next day. She brings a large mail I believe & I hope a dozen letters or so for me. I could only get papers of the 27th & 30th Dec. & they gave me merely the news of those days. I wish you would let Ed send me a Daily Herald every now & then - when there is anything of interest in it.

Black News is often even more interesting than that of a later date. I want to know when you heard that Banks had got here & had super-seded Butler.

I cannot find out whether it was before the 22^d or not.

While writing the last two pages I have received three telegrams from Berwick Bay, asking for ammunition, & stating that they