

New Orleans  
July 29, 1863

Friend Still

I have really forgotten whether I answered your last letter or not. If not I will answer it now. If I have answered it, I will write to you. As good luck would have it I was at the fall of Fort Hudson, and had the pleasure of marching through that Impregnable Stronghold, on the 9th of July. We came directly from Fort Hudson to Donaldsonville. Upon our arrival at Donaldsonville, we were sent down the River on a "scare crowd" expedition, which amounted to a march of twelve miles in the heat of the afternoon

Our Surgeon thought that I  
could afford to be sick  
a little more now Port  
Hudson was in our hands  
and accordingly sent me to  
New Orleans, and gave me  
instructions not to join  
the Regt. again until it  
went into "Quarters" which  
will be in a very few days  
now. Dawson joined the  
Regt. the morning that  
I left it. He is looking  
quite well. Ben. Ross is in  
New Orleans. Capt. Rogers has  
resigned and gone home.  
Lieut. Ennis told the Lieut. Col. to  
Recommend Ben. but through  
some one's engineering it seems  
that he recommended one Sergt.  
McMath. Ennis is pretty mad  
about it. I don't know how it  
will come out but every one

Sympathy is with Ben.

Past called to see me today,  
He was taken prisoner at  
"Brashear City" and paroled.

Det Hart, and Lawrence are  
with the Regt. Det Hart's health  
has not been very good  
but he was rather on the gain  
when I left the Regt. Wakeman  
was left at Fort Hudson sick.

The troops in this Dept. are  
worn out, they need rest.

The box (of which you spoke) was  
taken from the "Express office" by  
some one, I did not learn who  
and the fruit directed to me  
was sent to me, while I was in  
the Hospital, please accept my  
thanks for your kindness.

You will pardon me for  
not writing before (if I have not)  
as I went to Fort Hudson as  
soon as I was able to write

Since which time my facilities  
for writing have been very  
limited.

We regard the riot in  
New York City as the worst feature  
of the rebellion at the present  
time, and I am afraid that  
such men as Horatio Seymour  
and Fernando Wood will fail  
to get the soldiers vote when  
this was close. There is a  
strong feeling against some  
politicians of New York, in  
the Dept. of the Gulf.

Nothing would give the sol-  
diers of this Dept. so much  
pleasure as a field fight  
with Northern Copperheads  
Accept my thanks for the Carte  
de visites you were so kind  
as to send. My best regards  
to your family, and all others who may  
inquire as Ever Wheelock



Wm. F. Steel Esq.,  
Macedon Center,  
Wayne Co.,  
New York

New Orleans  
July 29, 1863

Friend Steel

I have really forgotten whether I answered your last letter or not. If not I will answer it now. If I have answered it, I will write to you. As good luck would have I was at the fall of Port Hudson, and had the pleasure of marching through that Impregnable Strong hold on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July. We came directly from Port Hudson to Donaldsonville. Upon our arrival at Donaldsonville, we were sent down the River on a "scare crow" expedition which amounted to a march of twelve miles in the heat of the afternoon. Our surgeon thought that I could afford to be sick a little more now port Hudson was in our hands and accordingly sent me to New Orleans, and gave me instructions not to join the Regt. again until it went into "Quarters" which will be in a very few days now. Dawson joined the Regt. the morning that I left it. He is looking quite well. Ben Roys is in New Orleans. Capt Rogers has resigned and gone home. Lieut. Ennis told the Lieut. Col to recommend Ben but through some one's engineering it seems that he recommended one Sergt. McMath, Ennis is pretty mad about it, I don't know how it will come out but everyones sympathy is with Ben. Post called to see me today He was taken prisoner at "Brashear City" and paroled. Dehart, and Lasonenee are with the Regt. DeHarts health has not been very good but he was rather on the gain when I left the Regt. Wakeman was left at Port Hudson sick. The troops in this Dept. are worn out, they need rest. The box (of which you spoke) was taken from the "Exp\_fs office" by someone. I did not learn who and the fruit directed to me was sent to me while I was in the Hospital. Please accept my thanks for your kindness. You will pardon me for not writing before (if I have not) as I went to Port Hudson as soon as I was able to write since which time my facilities for writing have been very limited. We regard the riot in New York City as the worst feature of the rebellion at the present time, and I am afraid that such men as Horatio Saymon and Fernando Wood will fail to get the soldiers vote when this war closes. There is a strong feeling against some politicians of New York in the Dept. of the Gulf.

Nothing would give the soldiers of this Dept. so much pleasure as a field fight with Northern Copperheads. Accept my thanks for the Carte DeVisiles you were so kind as to send. My best regards to your family and all others who may inquired.

As ever

Wheelock