

George Frederick Ziegler Letter and Transcription

August 28, 1862 - Camp near Cloud's Mills, VA

Camp near Cloud's Mills, Virginia.
August 28th 1862, 3 P.M.

Dear Wife:

When I wrote this morning I was hurried from my
 morning letter by the arrival of an ^{old} ^{friend} which had already
 you had a long mile and arrived about 11 o'clock. We are
 in an old position, and are enjoying a style. The Colonel
 has now all the men at work cleaning up the camp, and
 a good work it is. It is necessary to good health
 and acting in that position I give you my unqualified desire
 to read, so I may not remain so long in the rank here
 on. I make out to keep as clean as a silver can. The business
 of our trip into the field is done in a few days, as I have
 the which account for our remaining at our present camp.
 He has not received full particulars of the affair at Manassas
 but has enough to know that he was not to our advantage.
 He only says, was I heard speak about going to Manassas and
 willing and ready. Our Camp is thought to be one of the best
 found. There will be no fear of having water against us here
 than elsewhere. ^{John} ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 the ^{friend} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 I am glad he got to the "Queen" also. ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 same position. Our affection was unexpressed, so to say.

The old College friend - that is Ziegler - seems to be the plan.
 If we should happen to move further south, I may need some money
 as it may be difficult for you to send it down to me
 and you say, if you please send me 25 or 30 dollars.
 I had have made requisition this afternoon for a Sergeant Major's
 "Regiment" and I did not get a dress uniform until now but my
 new clothes will fit. I have a new hat, and I could not
 be better situated, thank to you for it. I think you would have
 difficulty getting Express goods here from Alexandria, although I
 am uncertain as to charges. ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 to our Camp in a general way to be desired. ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 citizen clothes could obtain no satisfaction at the Quartermaster's
 and have bread, and by chance happened to ride into our
 camp. ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 in the evening. I think citizen could pass. I do not know
 says he thinks there would be no difficulty
 and so a stranger in a Regiment. I do not see the boy
 looks like Ned. I would like to see it. I got into both
 and will try and answer it in a few days. If you get a
 chance don't forget the resolution. Although I had read it
 now, I may should be changed or pulled. I intend writing
 to Mr. W. H. H. & Mr. Ziegler soon and see. My sister is well
 and will likely bring you the letter. I don't know what the
 Cadbury, although Mr. Ziegler put the same in - often though
 occasionally I write him. The Regiment will be at

is a ^{very} ^{kind} ^{man} and that about you and me, because
 he is a very nice fellow as are all the officers. I saw his
 club, and only was ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 account of both preceding letters, as you will both. ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 very man, ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 says he has made his annual report to the Col. but passed
 by ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 talk, when a ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 I hope may soon be rewarded. ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 you to help me the Manassas R.R. and I don't account for
 it from the ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 flung and we are there to attend to them. I don't think
 of the ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 the ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 Manassas. ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 months ago, had he enjoyed such opportunities as ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 and failed to improve them. The best thing we could
 now do would be to consolidate the ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 & Burnside, and give ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 to see light at the end of the darkness, or to see the
 thing will end. ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 They have to all hand here. ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
 all particulars.

Yr loving Son
G. F. Ziegler

Is the ^{W. H. H.} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to} ^{be} ^{with} ^{us} ^{and} ^{is} ^{very} ^{friendly} ^{disposed} ^{to}
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Dear Papa:

When I wrote this morning I was hurried from my morning letter by the arrival of our tents, which had already gone half a dozen miles and arrived about 10 o'clock. We are in our old position, and are refoxing in style. The Colonel has now all the men at work cleaning up the camp, and a good work it is. Cleanliness is necessary to good health, and acting on that principle I gave Tom my unwashed clothes to wash. So I may not remain so long in the ones I have on. I make out to keep as clean as a Soldier can. The hurrying of raw troops into the field it seems was countermanded at Washington, which accounts for our remaining at our present camp. We have not received full particulars of the affair at Manassas but have enough to know that it was not to our advantage. Nearly every man I heard speak about going to Manassas was willing and ready. Our camp is thought to be one of the first towards Stonewall; but his face is turned rather against Washington than Alexandria. Clay M'Cauley was yesterday appointed by Gen Sturgis as Division Quartermaster Clerk – a very nice position. I am glad he got it. Wm Kennedy of the "Times," also Brigade – same position. Clay's appointment was unexpected, so he says. (Page 2) An old College friend – to Sturgis secured him the place. If we should happen to move further South, I may need some money as it may be difficult for you to send it direct to me, and you may if you please send me 20 or 30 dollars. Lt. Col Rowe, made requisition this afternoon for a Sergeant Major's Uniform for me and I will not get a dress uniform until I see how my new clothes will fit. My duties are not hard and I could not be better situated, thanks to you for it. I think there would be no difficulty getting express goods here from Alexandria, although I am uncertain as to charges. Whether citizens could come out to our Camp is a question yet to be decided. Reymer in citizens clothes could attain no satisfaction at the War Department and came ahead, and by chance happened to ride into our Camp. Col Austin will give you any further information on the subject. I think citizens could pass. Lt. Col Rowe says he thinks there would be no difficulty.

And so a stranger is in Lancaster. Sis tells me the boy looks like Fred. I would like to see P. I got Sister's letter and will try and answer it in a few days. If you get a chance don't forget the revolver. Although I don't need it now, I may should we change our position. I intend writing to Mr. Mather & Mr. Montague soon. Maj Austin is unwell and will likely bring you this letter. I don't drill with the Company, although Maj Hershberger puts the non-com-officers through occasionally, I among them. The Adjutant John Stewart is (Page 3) a Horace Greeley man, and that suits you and me. However he is a very nice fellow as are all the Officers. I am his clerk. I only read H Greeley's 2d letter to Lincoln, and I am expecting an account of both preceding letters in your next letter. Greeley is my man, Lincoln is rather too Border State-ish, and as Greeley says, let him make his Generals conform to the late bills passed by Congress, to the letter, as he did Fremont to the Confiscation Bill, when in

Missouri. Things look bogus in the valley, and I hope may soon be remedied. From 30 to 40,000 men have gone to Pope over the Manassas R.R., and I can't account for it how the Rebels went to Manassas and cut up a little flurry and no one there to attend to them. Just to think of the fruitless campaign of McClellan, Ditches & death on the Peninsula, and a golden opportunity lost in part of Manassas. Fremont would and should have been dismissed months ago, had he enjoyed such opportunities as McClellan and failed to improve them. The best thing Lincoln could now do would be to consolidate the Armies of Pope, McClellan, & Burnside, and give Fremont Command. It is difficult to see light at the end of the darkness, or to see how this thing will end. Maj Austin is going. I must close. My love to all, Good bye. My love to all. Maj will give you all particulars.

Yr loving son

Fred.

(Page 4) Is the Lancaster story a secret in Greencastle?