

Camp 15th. Prof. Hls.
near Warrenton Va, Aug 22/63

My Dear Aunt,

I received a letter
from you some two weeks ago, but have
been so pressed with business
that I could find no time
to answer sooner.

I have ^{been} in Command of
Co. C. from June 17th to Aug 1st
then in Command of Co. F. to Aug.
15th. and am now in Comd.
of Co. G. and every time I take
command of a Company I have
to make triplicat returns
of Ordnance, Clothing, Camp
and Garrison Equipage. and
to send to Washington, and
also settle up all the ^{books and papers} papers
of the Co. I previously Commanded

so you see that all these things taken into consideration, together with about six hours drill per day, dwindles my own time down to just about - nothing.

Our Brigade is, as you will see by the date, at Warrenton doing Provost duty in that "City of beautiful ladies", and I can tell you that it keeps well up to its name for if you walk the streets about seven o'clock in the afternoon you will see from 50 to 75 very beautiful young ladies in a population of, I suppose, three thousand (in time of Peace, but as all the men are in the Rebel Army, there are not over 700 or 800, here!)

Expres goods come right through
now, without any delay
and the boys are getting
boxes from home every day.

We are having better times
now than I ever expected
we would have in the army.

I received a letter from home
night before last, they are
all well. Fritz wrote to me
some time ago, asking for eight
dollars, which I let him have,
and Father says he passed the
office with the big box in his arms
which he would not let Father
look into; what it can be
he is so secret about, I don't
know and am very curious, to hear
what all the privacy was about.

You are right in your conjectures
as to my falling into bad habits

for I have not touched a drop of
Whiskey, Gin, Brandy or Rum since
I have left home except when
we were on the march from
Hagerstown to Williamsport, when I
was so weak, (having marched so
much and been up for several
nights) that I could not walk,
but after taking a good pull at
a bottle of Whiskey I felt much
stronger and did not complain
thereafter.

I never swear ^{nor chew} and have the credit
to think myself a very moral young
man.

Write soon and I will answer it
immediately.

As to the Slave of Absence I don't
expect one before next winter.

Write soon to
Your Loving Nephew
St. Ellis Hamilton
O. S. 15th. Ms. A.