

Charles Butler Correspondence

Chattanooga, Tenn. Dec. 8th 1864

Friend Charlie

As I am on gard [sic] today [illegible] have jest [sic] stood on trick and now have four ours [sic] to my self I thout [sic] that I cood [sic] not improve the time any better than in writing to you, and letting you now how we are getting along. we [sic] are all well at presant [sic], but our duty is very hard for we are on head. quarter [sic] gard [sic] on picket every other day and at presant [sic] we are on half rations, for Old Hood is a bobing [sic] around here some and has cut the railroad between here and Nashville and we are told that they are fiting [sic] some at Nashville, and we are expecting him here every day and all preparations are being made to receive him, and I think if he nows [sic] when he is well of [sic] he had beter [sic] stand back or he will get his fingers burnt for we are a saucy set of boys here and will handle him prety [sic] rough, aspecially [sic] if we are kep [sic] on half or quarter ration for a Soldier will fite [sic] for his rations if any thing. we [sic] can here [sic] Cannading [sic] and musketry moste [sic] every day and we only ake [sic] to have a hand in, for we have got tip top peaces [sic] and we wod [sic] make every shot cont [sic] and Charla I wish you were here for we are having tip top times and are jest [sic] as hapy [sic] as gees and are as natcheral [sic] as wood Chucks, and every thing goes lovely with us whilst the goos [sic] hangs high for we are a square set of boys bilt [sic] from the ground up and set on wheals [sic] and when we hurra [sic] it is for Old Abe every time and we are willing to suport [sic] any thing that he ses [sic] for we beleive [sic] that he is our secuond [sic] Washington and will be the Father of our cuntry, [sic] and we are glad to now [sic] that he cant [sic] see any thing elce [sic] but an uncondial [sic] surrender of the South. So Old Jeff will hafto [sic] come to time and is not that right, hey. I say yes. Hell Charley how are the times there and how are all the Gals and Schoolmoms [sic] do they all hold their bignes [sic] yet or do they hafto [sic] loosen their apern [sic] strings a little please write and tell me all about it and give my respects to all inquirieng [sic] friends and tell them that I am as round as an apple and as fat as a buck and can eat a dog all but his tale [sic] so I am all rite [sic] you see and I must draw this hen scraching [sic] to a close for you never can read it so please excuse all mistakes and if you deam [sic] it worth answering please write soon.

I am as ever yours with respect

H. G. Saxton

(Hiram G. Saxton, Co. H, 9th Mich and Co. C 70th N. Y. Infantry)

(Written to Charles Butler, Paw Paw, Mich.)

Chattanooga, Tenn.

Jan. 23d/65

To Chas. H. Butler

Dear Friend. Yours of Jan. 9th was received and persued [sic] with grate [sic] plasure [sic], and now words of mine can express the joy that it gave me to receive and read such a letter from you and now with the same joy that it gave me to receive and read your letter, I take my pencil and paper in hand to answer it, hoping that this may find you as well as it leaves us at presant [sic] for we are all harty [sic] and tough and can eat hard tack till they will rattle in us when we walk around So you see we are all sound on the goos [sic], while our heads are up and tales arising like a steer in the corn, ready to perform our duty as soldiers, when ever cald [sic] on, for we are fuly [sic] deturmend [sic] to put down and play out this rebelion [sic] and set our flag to floting [sic] threw [sic] out all our borders again.

Well Charley you wished to now [sic] what I thought about Old Abe and the three hundred thousand more, well I say buly [sic] and I glory in your spunk for not given a red, for no body has got good sense can ask any thing more of you than you have done, there fore I want to see those big able bodies and cowardly felows [sic] come out and take a leson [sic] or two and I hope that you will take no slang from any of those Copperheads there with out given them arap [sic] or two over the snoot for it made me so mad last sumer [sic] and fall when I were at home to hear some of them talk that I cood [sic] not hardly keep my hands of [sic] from them and I wood [sic] quicker give \$50.00 to see them hafto [sic] come down here than I wood [sic] one red cent to have them stay at home. well [sic] Chas. I was glad to hear that you were teaching school this winter and were having such good times and I say go in Charley and dont [sic] you let me hear of you letting any of the girls suffer and please think of me acasionally [sic] when you get in the short roes [sic] and give them an easy shove for me. I shood [sic] ben [sic] rite [sic] glad Charley to attended that spelling school that you spoke of with a crowd of our boys if it had ben [sic] convenient for us to do so, for I think we wood [sic] had a gay old time, dont [sic] you, and Charley I was sorry to hear that some of the Girls there began to look as if they had ben [sic] eaten dried appels [sic] and I believe that you are a little misstaken [sic] when you think that I now [sic] any thing about it, for I wont [sic] do any such athing [sic] you now [sic] any quicker than a dot and I will tell you what atime [sic] I had on gard [sic] the other day. I were garding [sic] alot of shingels [sic] and peaces [sic] of boards behind a big dweling [sic] house down town and jest [sic] at nite [sic] there was a very nice looking Girl came out of the house and ses [sic] Centinal [sic] wont [sic] you let me have some of those shingels [sic] and I sed [sic] I cant [sic] for you wont [sic] give me nothing. yes [sic] I will she ses [sic] give you anything that you want, so you see that I was all hunky adora [sic] and I told her to take what she wanted and after my trick was of [sic] I natcherly [sic] went in the house you now [sic] and fond [sic] her setting on the lounge so I steps [sic] rite [sic] along and takes a seet [sic] by her side and slips my arm arond [sic] her waste [sic] and you will haf [sic] to gess [sic] al [sic] the rest for there is not room to scratch it on this sheet of

paper, but I have the privelege [sic] of going there when ever I choose, but that is not very ofton [sic] for you now [sic] that I do not beleive [sic] in it, so no more this time. rite [sic] soon and excuse all mistakes.

H G Saxton

(Hiram G. Saxton)

(Co. H. 9th Infantry)