

St. Louis, Missouri. Jan. 30. 1819th

Dear Sir

I write this to inform you where I am, & also that I hold a 2.^d Lieut. commission in the Army & belong to the 6.th regt. bound on the Yellow Stone expedition, but now wintering at the Council Bluffs, & supposed will remain there, & the rifle regt. will go on - I obtained this commission by volunteering in the spring & applying at Washington & Mr. Adams & received it at Leesington Ky. where an instructor in a private family, & have accepted it because business is very dull here, & the money currency wick down, & very bad, - & because I think it will bring me forward, the best, & lead to a better appointment - I was ordered to this place, & am now ordered to join the 6. regt. at the Council Bluffs, 650. miles up the Missouri river, I shall go in a keel boat with 20. men immediately, - I understand this 6. regt. is a very fine one officers & men, commanded by Col. Atkinson, & if I have my health & life shall get promotion soon, & see this new, wild, & rich country, for which refer to Muckewidge history of it, & Lewis & Clark's my pay will amount to 600. dol. per. ann. & 10. cents per. mile I rode here from Leesington on a white horse much like the one I left at home, 400. miles in 10. days & have reported myself to Col. Inelling at Bell ^{a depo. 10. miles from this place} Fort, as are almost all the officers, & in this department, the fever & ague rages all thro' this & the Illinois State & is very sickly, but improving, & I am well, & understand tis. very healthy on the Missouri, scarcely a man sick, constant communication between - here & there, - I wish to be promoted, & this can be affected by writing to S. I. Adams, & in the spring perhaps transferred to another regt. the arctel, in order to get back from this wilderness country, all which the Gov. can do if he is a mind to, but tis. very probable I shall resign soon, in order to buy land, & get another birth, & land agent a pay-master, a hunter master or some more lucrative birth, for I find the people at Washington are disposed to favour a Waterhouse.

And thus you see I go, & take my leave of you, & with
you to remember me to your wife & Mary, & all the
people, - I know not when you will hear from me
again if ever, but write & address to St. Louis, Missouri
Tenn. - I have wrote you one or twice, but had no answer
the indications are peaceable, & there is danger from them
I lament not being in the Steam Boats, but
they are now laid aside for beel boats, - but my
strange & unexpected appointment, was 5 months, in reach-
ing me, & obtained without my recommendations, only
writing to J. Q. Adams.

Yours sincerely
A. Waterhouse

A. Waterhouse.
Secret. O. reg. in sent.

New: H. Ware.



HMS
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CINCINNATI
OCT 20
1851

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Received Henry Ware, junr.

Boston

Mass: to

Forwarded by
Dr. Fairbanks, to Louisville, Ky.

Cantonment Missouri March 19th
1820.

Esteemed friends & relations - I write but one letter to you all, will make as much of a journal as I can; - I have just received three letters one from Betty, one from Benjamin in Georgia one from Mary, dated October, November & December, 1819. &c - old as they were, they pleased & well as informed me, of your situation & threat of the family, which now takes a new start, - I saw the marriage of Dr. B. Waterhouse, to Miss: Louisa Lee in October last, & was by no means surprised, nor interested & for I have no objections in the world, rather glad of it, - Benjamin says nothing particular, only that he shall endeavour to make a settlement in Georgia in the profession of Law, & wishes for my law books, & is going to study with my old friend & fellow student Morrison, - but I have left those books & my trunk in Lexi: Kentucky. - Mary's, & Mrs. Waves letter I cannot particularly answer, they contained a narration of the death & circumstances transpired of late, very proper &c - & they were received & read thro: G: months old, with feelings better imagined than
I believe you must know, that I have spent the winter (I am not a family man house within 100 miles, & I did not see a woman nor child for 3 months) as a desolate island, & in a wilderness, the Camp here is full of snow & dry grass & any thing lively except vegetables &c. - ^{the} ^{camp} ^{here} ^{is} ^{full} ^{of} ^{snow} [&] ^{dry} ^{grass} [&] ^{any} ^{thing} ^{lively} ^{except} ^{vegetables} ^{&c.} - ^{the} ^{camp} ^{here} ^{is} ^{full} ^{of} ^{snow} [&] ^{dry} ^{grass} [&] ^{any} ^{thing} ^{lively} ^{except} ^{vegetables} ^{&c.} -
I have addressed letters to Mrs. Wave, from all the most important places, I have arrived at, informing him & you, as well as I was able, of my changes, that you may not be at a loss or in anxiety about me. - And II: In August last 1819 I received my appointment in the C: reg: on the Missouri & left Lex: Ky: in Sept: 1819. - I rode on horseback to St. Louis Miss: Jan: & spent a fortnight there, & was then ^{by Col. Snelling's order} ^{ordered} to join the reg: at Council Bluffs. 700: miles up the Missouri river, & I took passage in a keel boat & proceeded on, & was 2: months in navigating this noble river, until the 1:st of Dec: - when I was stopped by the ice from going any further, but safely arrived at an old Cantonment, now overgrown, called Cow Island, where lay one of the Steam Boats, which could go either up nor down for want of water, - about 15: men, & we all have hunted

Deer & Turkeys, & eat wild bees honey for our subsistence, I have had no tea & nor coffee, nor butter & but my little spirit all winter & our winter hunt consists of about 100: deer & 400. turkeys killed & several barrels of honey, we cure & dress the deer skin & make them into cloths to wear, a novel kind of life to me, but I am well stronger & better than ever I was, & I can hardly say in this ~~life~~ have I been low spirited. - I have been called twice to defend the boat, against an unruly set of Indians, & was troubled with ^{them} an week or more, they first fired on the boat in the night about 7: in the evening, I returned the fire with more than 20: rifles well loaded. - but believe I killed none of them, nor was any body hurt on my side, I lost a man - for 5: days I supposed they had killed him, but he returned again, during this week that these Indians hung on the shore, I was under arms night & day in great anxiety, but I could hardly keep the men from shooting them down like wild animals they hate them so bad, - I walked the greatest part of the 700. ^{or} on foot with a rifle on my shoulder, which I never go with out, & go, from 15: to 20: miles per: day, - I am urged to make an official report of this engagement, but shall avoid it, if possible, if anything should appear in the newspapers about it, I wish it might be set right, I behaved well & managed prudently, & some have ~~injured~~ individuals are on mind to injure me about it, if they can, but I gained the credit & confidence with Comd' Officers, & have been greatly honored & attended to for so young an officer, - & Major Humphries sent his horse to Cow Island, & 7: men for me, I left there the 8: th of Feby, - & arrived here on the 21: st - a march of: 14: days thro: a wilderness country, & I performed it mostly on foot, for the horses were so poor, they could not carry me, - they subsisted only on bark of trees, & ^{the cotton wood or poplar tree bark & rushes, a new kind of stone oars,} & rushes, - & strange as it may appear I laid out these ~~the~~ night in the open air, before a fire on the snow &c. & never caught cold, nor have I had a cold this winter, a pretty queer kind of a journey in Feby, - yes - I came into Cantonment Missouri near the Council Bluffs with seven men & 7: horses - & this journey has gained me great credit, & I have been offered several distinct commands, one to river St. Anthony, & other to the Pawnee tribe of Indians, & I have now just returned for an occasion

on the river after a keel boat to transport the sick down the river
& expect to go with them, for tis very sickly - out of the 6: reg - there
is not 100: fit for duty - they are sick with the ^{genuine} scurvy, for want
of vegetables, nothing contagious - Yes - I wish to inform you, that
this Expedition is now at a stand on account of this sickness, the
numbers that have died & those that are now sick compel us
to say, we do hardly exist as a reg: - I cannot state the numbers
the Steward of Holo, has just now been round to ascertain this,
but this I do not wish to be made public, & as it will discourage

This Cantonment of logs & log houses, about 4: acres square,
& issuing 1000: rations, - mounts only three centuries, ~~in this~~
ground & I have been Officer of the reg myself & commanded
the whole, lamentable & distressing beyond description, -
I suppose this must come out at last, & you will have an account
of it from some quarter. - The Officers are generally very healthy
& more have died, a very fine set of fellows, & try to be as agree-
able as poss. - I am ^{in this wretched country} very happy & pleasantly situated, & expect
to have that old, but strange prediction soon fulfilled, of
bringing the sick on to their heads, &c for I am ordered to transport
them to Fort Osage, about 300: miles down this river, to
maintain & exercise a strength. - The river has just cleared

& this goes down by the first boat or Express - to
to the Comd Officer, at St. Louis, Col. Atkinson, &
there, to obtain orders - we all suppose, to descend
we expect all to die for want of fresh provisions if we
longer, - Direct your letters to me with 6: reg: on the
expedition with utmost confidence, - I expect to see you
again, some time or rather, & I expect to spend my days in
this promotion is slow, tis my ambition you know, my
my very wish & feeling, is that of a soldier, I belong to
B: of the right wing Cap. Shaler, most all the officers & soldiers of this reg:
are Yankees. - I wish you to remember me to every body to
Grandma in particular & not suffer me to went for letters
in this wilderness country. - Yours very affectionally

A. H. Waterhouse.

Tis very doubtful as to our destination, we cannot go forward to the Yellow
Stone nor any where, we are so sick, & tis, as probable we shall go down
as any way, there is nothing special to keep us here, the Indians, are
very quiet, harmless, & wild animals, - many tribes would otherwise be

HMS
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Franklin, d. 17
April 9.

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Rev. Henry Ware junr. ✓
To the care of Dr. Benj. Waterhouse.
Of N. S. Irving.

Boston

Massachusetts.

at
a. w.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting on the right side of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

St. Louis. M. S. June 14: 1820.

Dear Sirs

I have been at this place about a month & have resigned my commission in the Army, or have sent it in, & wait for an answer, but somewhat expect it will not be accepted, I have done this to get clear of the worst of services, & the worst station, & because the movements in the expedition are entirely stopped by Congress, both regiments are destroyed by sickness, & it will be 2 or 3 years before they can progress, & I might be a Lieut: 7 or 8 years before promoted, I shall spend the summer & fall here where you can direct to me, & if I cannot get ordered to Boston or its vicinity I shall, & come on by the way of New-Orleans late in the fall when my health may be such that I shall barely have money enough to support me that long.

And I shall now inform you, one & all, that the greatest difficulty I meet with, is the surprise & astonishment of every one when they become to know me that I am not better provided for, & I am constantly asked if I cannot obtain assistance from my friends, — I say I no I never have asked it — now I am going out into the country to live cheap & if do not get sick, I shall have money enough to support me till fall, but if I should get sick, I should not, — This is the greatest obstacle to my success here, for there opportunities of teaching do not occur as in an old settled country, & if a man has not a small capital, he can barely do anything but with it, he may do a great deal, — I mean to spend the winter in New-Orleans if I can, & then I shall have seen all this western country, & intend to follow this roving life, till I am enabled to settle down with \$1000: — or so to live with — I have preserved my health, & am

stouter & stronger than ever I was, & was considered
the strongest man in camp, - but alas - the stoutest
men in camp in a wilderness country, & every season
have failed, but I have been fortunate enough
to escape, & I can stand the winter season here, -
which as yet is very healthy. I shall do well but
the bad times, are doubly bad in a new country, & are
very good in Mass: - compared with here. -

I have made great research & enquires, in all
the avenues to business & profession in the west, & find
them very much embarrassed, - I have escaped
a great many dangers, & am now well & safe here,
where I shall be for 3 months to come, except the snuff-
-les & asthma, which have troubled me considerably
lately, - this letter will reach you in a month
& one year reach me in back in the same time,
& if you are a mind to write me you may, or
at all, & if not let it alone.

Your friend
J. Waterhouse.

New Haven
&
the west.

N. B. - Important to the U. S. -
the Convention for forming this Territory
into a new state met yesterday. - adjourned.

J. W.

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HMS
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LOUISIANA
JUN 10
M.

Rev. Henry Ware, Junr.

Boston.
Mass.

New York July 9th 1822 -

Dear Henry

Your strange letter arrived, it appears by it that if the great Mammoth of ancient days had run across the continent, he could not have excited so much surprise as my arrival here, - such a fuss in family acquaintances and I never have before in all my travels known, - I wrote my last letter under severe pain, as I have not been well since I arrived here, & in the hands of the Dr., - & I expect you must not have understood it as I must have but lay expressed it, - I informed you, that I came here on a speculation, & I do again, such a one as would lay the ground-work of a fortune, not far to live or be supported by you or your brother, the short time I have been here I expect to be able to pay for, if I am not paid by the unjust, repulsive, & improper reversion of family connections - - -

Your letter seems to strongly fraught with false premises, from what source I know not, - Wm & Mary may stand corrected, because any one that asserts, that I am an idler & have not supported myself, asserts what is not true, - I have supported myself worked with my own hand both this last trip & for several years past, - I am indebted to you, & shall be able to repay with usury, - & I expect to work hard, & if I have a mind to quit Leonis; (where I never intended to remain, but was hurried off for sake of going somewhere) & come to N York or anywhere else I should suppose, I might be permitted to do it, - And I consider it both uncharitable & improper for anybody to object to it, especially when I have industriously & overexerted myself in gathering property, not only for my self, but the family. -

It is, & has been my endeavour by every acquaintance in your family, for all of whom I so much esteem & respect not to plunder them, but in the distracted & ruined state of my own, by your extensive & growing acquaintance to be of mutual assistance to each other, - as I have none of my own. I cannot act from selfish motive entirely, - tho' I conceive it entirely improper to give you an idea of the trade & prospects of the Western country, - where as you say I have not supported myself, but idled away my life & time & c - of which I did not converse much wh I was with you, because of E. low health. -

I intend if I ever get back again to spend my days in & about Cincinnati, without either plundering or living upon either of the Waves - where business is now very brisk. -

There is some remarks from one Dr. B. Waterhouse in a letter to Henry Wane - which you can tell him need no other remarks, than to contradict them, & I say they are both unjust & false. - I seem to be blamed for ^{not} settling down, I have told you over & again, that the whole country are a travelling at this season, - & if one should settle down as you call it, - would be settling in their graves, which some of you seem to be idly ventured enough most to wish, or not to care for. -

I fled from pestilence & death last year, I have done the same again, - ill pay you when I can, & if your letters are not filled with promises less false, less treng & unaccountable here our correspondence must end, especially when they are cut off. - Yours affectionally
A. O. Waterhouse

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19th
1863



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Rev. Henry Ware, jun.

Boston.

That's the faculty.