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Title: Letter from G. G. Beckwith to D. H. Hastings

Date: January 21, 1862

Location: I-Friends-1975-2

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Frederick, Md.,
January 21st 1862.

My dear Captain.

Since we
live altogether on storm-peders
there seems very little use
of a Commissary Department.
The thaw and rain of the
last three or four days has
put every thing in very fine
condition for our march, and
I am hourly expecting some-
thing of The Wind. In fact
if Long and Jackson, the
two Brigadiers in front of
Winchester, were active
vigilant fellows they ought,
with the 12,000 men and
twenty eight pieces of artillery
they are reported to have, to bay
Sonder at Patterson's creek
with his 8,000 men whilst

The river is up and
filled with ice as it is
now - for without bridges or
boats we could not transport
men in a raft. What could
be done by Rumson from
Whitely and this I do
not know, but do not
believe he could get up
in time to be of the least
service. Some Garrison men
come in from Martinsburg
two days ago and said the
rebel forces had all left
Winchester - not leaving a
garrison in the place. If this
is true they have certainly
gone north, not south.
I do not think it probable
they have 12,000 men, but
they have two brigades and
considerable artillery - enough

to get such a general as
Gordon easily. Sumner is
not supposed to have stopped this
side of Savannah and
some imagine Pensacola.
A thousand sailing men
could have taken Fort Pulaski
in an hour when Sherman
went to Port Royal. Now, to get
Savannah they must go in
behind the ~~bar~~ - at Thunder-
bolt or Montgomery and will
encounter some field works
and perhaps have some sharp
work to do. To get Parris they
must go with boats for five or
six feet of water up the Perdido
and get behind him - but that
stream is by this time prob-
ably sand-barred - or whilst
Pickens occupies him push
their light steamers and

Troops right past him to
round the Bay Bridge and
Peninsula without stopping
to fire a gun. McClellan
seems to be amusing the
politicians and perhaps making
a little ~~play~~ ploy in favor of
Sumner by parading "Good
Quaker Buggy Wagon" ~~thru~~=
up the streets of Washington,
and ordering the regulars to
be ready to move - trusting to
storms and impetuous words
to relieve him from his
disappointing the eager ex-
pectants. If he is going into
Va now, I should like to hear
one good word for him not
having gone two months ago.

It is supposed we will have a
Saint Cornwall soon - such
glorious self sacrifice! We
are as stupid as possible - no
chance of improving. My
wife joins me in kind
regards to yourself &
Mrs. Hastings - Truly yours
G. A. Smith



Capt. G. H. Hastings
N. H.
Corvick.
Jae

Civil War

10-01

Frederick, Md
January 21st 1862

My dear Captain -

Since we live altogether on _____
there seems very little use of a Commissary
Department. The _____ and _____ rain? of
the last three or four days has put every thing
in very fine condition for for _____ now, and
I am hourly expecting something of the kind. In
fact if Loring and Jackson, the two Brigadiers
in front of Winchester, sure _____ originating
fellows the night, with the 12,000 men and
twenty eight _____ of artillery they are
reputed to have to _____ at Patterson's
creek with his 8,000 men whilst the
river is up and filled with ice as it is now -
For without bridges or boats we could not
_____ him in a _____, what could be
done by _____ from Wheeling and Ohio I do
not know, but do not believe he could get up in
time to be of the most service. Some German
_____ came in from Martinsburg two days ago
and said the rebel forces had all left
Winchester - not leaving a _____ in the place.
If this is true they have certainly
gone north, not south. I do not think
it probable they have 12,000 men, but
they have two brigades and considerable
artillery - enough to get such a _____ as
_____ Sanders? easily. _____ is not supposed
to have _____ this side of Savannah and

In an hour _____ Sherman _____ to Port
Royal. Now, to get Savannah they must go
in behind the _____ - at Thunderbolt of
Montgomery and will encounter some field
works and perhaps have some _____
work to do. To get Bragg they must go
_____ boots for fire? or six feet of
of water up the Perdido and get _____
but that stream is by this time probably
_____ or _____ Pickens occupies him
push their _____ and troops right past
him to woods to _____ Pensacola
without stopping to fire a gun. McClellan
seems to be amusing the politicians and perhaps
making a little _____ in favor of Burnside by