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Title: Letters from Thomas Dick (Jul. - Dec. 1863)

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York July 29th 1863

Dear mother

I received your letter; and was glad to hear from home. I had been looking for a letter from there for some time: I never received an answer to the letter I wrote Stewart; and I have been in Harrisburg several times since we came back to York and inquired at the office every time. I have been speaking to It in regard to going to Greensburg: But I think it rather doubtful at present. We have been doing better here than we expected; and the government has issued orders now offering a bounty of 402 Dollars to those reenlisting; and there is a great many discharged nine months men

in this vicinity; and he ^(the Lt) thinks the prospects about as good here as any place else; and he dont ~~thin~~ like to make a change unless it is for the better. I will bove him all I can to get there. I had a letter from Lt Elder yesterday: He said they had cross the river; and were taking pretty much the same route that we took the last time. He said the boys were all well. I was glad to hear they had lost none in the last battle. When you write next time tell me how the cap is if you know I have not heard of him since I was at home. I suppose Lizzie will begin to think I am not going to send my photographs. But tell her every time I have been to Harrisburg it has been cloudy and wet so that I could not get it taken.

I can scarcely write here they
are talking all around me. I forgot
to tell you that Elder told me
that Green's promotion was only
temporary; and therefore it will
cause no vacancy at present. But
whenever it occurs, my claims shall
be attended to. However I don't ~~hate~~
envy them now; and we have better
times here than we could have with
the Regt. Still I feel sorry that
the boys had to go out again
I am afraid there will be but
few left when our time is out
remember me particularly to Grandmother
my love to all

Your affectionate son

W. Wick

York July 29th /63

Dear mother

I received your letter; and was glad to hear from home. I had been looking for a letter from there for some time. I never received an answer to the letter I wrote Stewart; And I have been in Harrisburg several times since we can back to York and inquired at the office every time. I have been speaking to Lt in regard to going to Greensburg; But I think it rather doubtful at present. We have been doing better there than we expected; and the government has issued orders now offering a bounty of 402 dollars to those reenlisting; and there is a great many discharged nine months men

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in this vicinity; and he (the Lt) thinks the prospects about as good here as any place else; and he dont ~~thin~~ like to make a change unless it is for the better. I will bore him all I can to get there. I had a letter from Lt Elder yesterday: He said they had crossed the river; and were taking pretty much the same route that we took the last time. He said the boys were all well I was glad to hear they had lost none in the last battle. When you write next time tell me how the Capt is if you know. I have not heard of him since I was at home. I suppose Lizzie will begin to think I am not going to send my photographs; But tell her every time I have been to Harrisburg it has been cloudy and wet so that I could not get it taken.

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I can scarcely write here they are talking all around me. I forgot to tell you that Elder told me that Kern's promotion was only temporary; and therefore it will cause no vacancy at present. But whenever it occurs my claims shall be attended to. However I dont ~~know~~ envy them now; and we have better times here than we could have with the Regt. Still I feel sorry that the boys had to go out again I am afraid there will be but few left when our time is out remember me particularly to Grandma

my love to all
your affectionate son

T W Dick

Recruiting Office
York Penna
Aug 15th 162

Dear Brother

I have just received your letter; and hasten to answer it. I was very glad to hear from home. For I hadent heard from home for so long; But I was sorry to hear of the death of Grandmother; and yet it was nothing more than I expected. When I was at Saxna she left home the last time I never expected to see her again; And now that she is done suffering and gone to that happier world we should be resigned. I wrote a letter to Bizzie sometime ago and have got no reply yet. We received news today that our party is on that detail from the reg^t to take charge

Of the drafted men: If that
be the case we will not be out longer
than a month at the farthest. The
rest of that detail are at Philadelphia;
And we expect to be ordered there before
long. If we get paid long enough before
we go back I will be home a few
days before returning to the regt.

I was sorry you had to refuse that
good offer in Mechanicsburg: But
I couldnt see how you could leave
home. I received mother's letter
and also the list of the drafted
men. Tell Joe Rankin I am
sorry for him I suppose he will
get a substitute through. The drafted
men here have received their notices
to make their appearance in Carlisle
on the 20th or be considered deserters: However
most of them are wealthy and I
suppose will either pay the commutation
money or procure substitutes. You
better look out or the next draft

will catch you. I suppose you
will think this a short letter! But
actually it is so warm and jam
so lazy that I can't write more
write soon

Give my love to all

Your Brother as ever

Tom Wick

Recruiting Office
York Penna
Aug 15th /63

Dear Brother

I have just received your letter and hasten to answer it. I was very glad to hear from home For I hadent heard from home for so long; but I was sorry to hear of the death of Grandmother; and yet it was nothing more than I expected. When I left home the last time I never expected to see her again; and now that she is done suffering and gone to that happier world we should be resigned. I wrote a letter to Lizzie some time ago and have got no reply yet. We received news today that our party is on that detail from the regt to take charge

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of the drafted men: If that be the case we will not be out longer than a month at the farthest. The rest of that detail are at Philadelphia; and we expect to be ordered there before long. If we get paid long enough before we go back I will be home a few days before returning to the regt. I was sorry you had to refuse that good offer in Mechanicsburg: but I couldent see how you could leave home. I received mother's letter and also the list of the drafted men. Tell Joe Rankin I am sorry for him I suppose he will get a substitute though. The drafted men here have received their notice sto make their appearances in Carlisle on the 20th or be considered deserters: However most of them are wealthy and I suppose will either pay the commutation money or procure substitutes. You better look out or the next draft

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will catch you. I suppose you will think this a short letter: But actually it is so warm and I am so lazy that I cant write more.

Give my love to all
Your Brother as ever

Tom W Dick

Columbia Dec 3^d 163

Dear Brother

I received your letter a few days ago; and should have answered sooner still it is sooner than you generally answer so you dare not scold. We are still in Columbia; and of course are enjoying ourselves very much. I had a letter from ~~St~~ Elder not many days ago he said the boys were generally well and had comfortable quarters. However since that I see by the papers the army is on the move again so I suppose they are not so comfortable.

now. I have not heard from

Capt Solar but once since we came to Columbia. I was over to Gettysburg on the 19th to the dedication of the national cemetery. there was a great crowd there: I believe all the Governors of the loyal states were there besides Father Abraham Edward Everett and other distinguished men. Everett made a fine ~~xxxxxxx~~ speech. I had a shake hands with the United States he appeared very glad to see me.

Although they had made every preparation in the town to accomodate the guests yet there was numbers who could not get a sleeping place. I went up the evening before and happened to be fortunate enough to fall in with a hackdriver from

Motters house York; And he
was kind enough to let us sleep
in his back he gave us two blankets
and a buffalo robe and we slept
very well. I was very glad to hear
that you are doing such a good
business; but dont work too hard.

You know you can only get your
six feet of ground when the sands
of life are run any how so you had
better take a little comfort as you go.

Now about reenlisting I believe as you
are all so opposed to it I will
not do so at present and I do not
intend to go into the service again
without some position But I wount
promise how it will be in that case.

Write soon Yours affectionately
Tom W. Dick

If About that overcoat

I made that bargain with
Spove because I could not have
mine sent to me. But Lizzie
says it is very much scuffed
mine is scuffed considerable
but it is a very decent coat

yet and if the other dont look
respectable of course I dont want
it. You can all see it and then
do as ^{you think best} but I dont want to
draw a new one this winter. and
if it dont suit send my shawl
it will do me while I am on
this service

If you pay the
expressage send me the receipt
immediatly so that I can lift
it

Columbia Dec 3rd /63

Dear Brother

I received your letter a few days ago; and should have answered sooner still it is sooner than you generally answer so you dare not scold. We are still in Columbia; and of course are enjoying ourselves very much. I had a letter from Lt Elder not many days ago he said the boys were generally well and had comfortable quarters. However since that I see by the papers the army is on the move again so I suppose they are not so comfortable

[Page Break]

now. I have not heard from Capt Bolar but since we came to Columbia. I was over to Gettysburg on the 19th to the dedication of the national cemetery. There was a great crowd there: I believe all the Governors of the loyal states were there besides Father Abraham Edward Everett and other distinguished men. Everett made a fine ~~speech~~ speech. I had a shake hands with the United States he appeared very glad to see me. Although they had made every preparation in the town to accommodate the guests yet there was numbers who could not get a sleeping place. I went up the evening before and happened to be fortunate enough to fall in with a hackdriver from

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Motter house York; and he was kind enough to let us sleep in his hack he gave us two blankets and a buffalo robe and we slept very well. I was very glad to hear that you are doing such a good business: but dont work too hard. You know you can only get your six feet of ground when the sands of life are run any how So you had better take a little comfort am you go. Now about reenlisting I believe as you are all so opposed to it I will not do so at present and I do not intend to go into the service again without some position But I wont promise how it will be in that case. write soon

Yours affectionately

Tom W Dick

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PS About that overcoat I made that bargain with Love because I could not have mine sent to me. But Lizzie says it is very much scuffed mine is scuffed considerable but it is a very decent coat yet and if the other dont look respectable of course I dont want it. You can all see it and then do as you think best but I dont want to draw a new one this winter. and if it dont suit send my shawl it will do me while I am on this service If you pay the expressage send me the receipt immediately so that I can lift it

Columbia Dec 7th 1863

Dear Sister

I have just written
to Sammy; and now I will
write to you. But you must
not expect a very long letter
for I am lazy this evening.
I am about half asleep: But
I ~~will~~ ^{will} do the best I can
I suppose you will think
as I have nothing to do,
scarcely but write letters I
might do that: But I believe

the less a person has to do
the less they want to do. But
I always like to get letters from
you; and will always be ready
to answer them. As there was no
sabbath school prayer meeting nor
preaching and you didnt say
anything bad in your letter I
guess it was no great wrong to
write to your brother on sabbath.

I am glad to know that you are
going to school regular. I was
sorry to hear you had any fuses
in school for I know it would
make Cunningham feel very bad
I have experienced such fuses myself
and I know how a teacher feels.

I suppose you had quite a
pleasant time at your carpet sag

sewing. I like to hear of
you enjoying yourself. I
guess I will take your advice
in regard to reenlisting. I am
~~talk~~ They are talking all around
me and I cant write any more
Yours affectionately

Tom W. Dick

Columbia Dec 7th /63

Dear Sister

I have just written to Sammy; and now I will write to you: But you must not expect a very long letter for I am lazy this morning. I am about half asleep: But I ~~must~~ will do the best I can I suppose you will think as I have nothing to do scarcely but write letters I might do that: But I believe

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the less a person has to do the less they want to do: But I always like to get letters from you; and will always be ready to answer them. As there was no Sabbath school prayer meeting nor preaching and you didnt say anything bad in your letter I guess it was no great wrong to write to your brother on sabbath. I am glad to know that you are going to school regular. I was sorry to hear you had any fusses in school for I know it would make Cunningham feel very bad I have experienced such fusses myself and I know how a teacher feels. I suppose you had quite a pleasant time at your carpet rag

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sewing. I like to hear of you enjoying yourselves. I guess I will take your advice in regard to reenlisting. ~~I am talk~~ They are talking all around me and I cant write any more

Yours affectionately

Tom W Dick