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Title: Letters from Jacob Frick to Eli Slifer **Date:** 1862-1863

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717-245-1399

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J. J. Frick. Ship Pourt, Va. alpie 22, 1862 Dran lot pleave any time to mite you a few lines that may know where we are. Jun motetum. We have been in board (Franklin's Division) of the transports for Six Days, and D believe we are not to disembody here. Sy som as the properties arrives for active operations to com--isin will from up hoch Rive and land in the hear of the meny quintoots. Heit Som all things will be in readined for not Runo. I presime the Som as all of the heavy beige gruy are placed in their proper positions

and the meather which has peel musually bad Settles the ball will be opened. The cinfid affarmables will be Despirate but questimable. All Seen to have in the lellan, who is and - Stanly in the alert, Supervis= = ing all operations. _ all of my ballants, my liest cluther South pietob (Ihave are with me) books, popers bride, hatter and husse blanket have zersach de, pertraps, with \$200 prese left in the whoy! Shis has put me in a great Strait, and I have Duffered ver much for the interviewing Canary get then yet. your Shily facebb. Shick E. Stilen Sog Z

Ship Point, Va. April 22, 1862

Dear Col:-

I have only time to write you a few lines that you may know where we are.

Our present location is 8 miles from Yorktown. We have been on board (Franklin's Division) of the transports for six days, and I believe we are not to disembark here. So soon as the proper time arrives for active operations to commence along the line our Division will run up York River and land in the rear of the enemy under cover of the fire of our gunboats. How soon all things will be in readiness I do not know. I presume so soon as all of the heavy siege guns are placed in their proper positions

[page break]

and the weather which has been unusually bad, settles, the ball will be opened. The conflict no doubt will be desperate, but the a favorable result, I think, is not at all questionable. All seem to have, as they should, unbounded confidence in Gen. McClellan, who is constantly on the alert, Supervising all operations._

In the great hurry to get our boat off from Alexandria, all of my baggage, consisting of bed, blankets, my best clothes, sash pistol (I have one with me) book, papers, bridle, halter and horse blankets, haversack &c., perhaps worth \$200 were left on the wharf. This has put me in a great strait, and I have suffered very much from the inconvenience. I may get them yet.

Yours Truly, Jacob G. Frick

E. Slifer Esq.

Camp Sover, M. October 29th 1862. Daar folonel: Ne are Still andreg here in the banks of the Potimae warting mitil the "army is rested and rechnited" before we are to follow the menny. (She time I am told has not arrived and that we will march ternorus, But just as we down that we are likely to he has follow back behing the Raffer harmoch, So it goes. We will was have to march for for en Supplies and base of operations, and I depresente from - haife dun in biginia. Dan ting alfield Service and whill glady retin when I might make a living for the present, he useful, and at the same time be compatable. (She cold damp

weather, has hight in occasional at and Shundber. I Shall be glag if it gots Un under be-great Brig. Ground has I apone your any man will theath all military were in bain if he des = sires to find in them his command and Sime of his inversents. I never heard Such abourg command, but understand: = ing what the wants to do a Smithing near 't, I get alug, while others blue = der like a man in the Dark. Lung think myself a por Exense if I could ant to an hunder times better and give for greater Satisfaction, He explains mittig Jushans for the going and Sufficient recision that does not News how & Su my part I want ame of his instruction, but if he consults me will afford him dome. I believe & mentioned once lufou that we were emmanded, (I weam this Divis: = in p (rangevarians) So Jor as Brigadiers

are concerned by an this and a hape= = chusetts men. Con Brigade is a close confircation of an Ohio Stamp. & near the bruncal and his entire Staff. Now Since he has been in Commany of Romin men he has had several pracancies on his Staff, and does he fill them as he Should fun Paricia Regiments? Bar fun 't. The Chrem (Olio) must jemain intert and he therefore Serves to Ohis Regiments (mostly (to the job to fill his parametes. This is a from Compliment to Parmie Officers under This command, heards him, notoning me = just. Im. Stoerm, when we pring him has an officer en his staff from three of the from Regiments the composing his Brigade Som afterwand he gave a chemee to en Regiment in room of the 25th. I.S. but infortunally as was the Care with most of Colmel Cake's Selections, the your non was not competent. He was a sin of the Resident of the Samero Banto. He again Detailed his brotherin law (Mentzinger) as any same mon would expect, was also

Sent to regin his Regiment. It was not you, Sloemi's fault that a Parmie was not on his Staff. Here no Chance is presenting. myey by these foreignes, So upon the whole we are impliasantly Situated. Sat least who has a very Sensitive mil feel humilitated, and don't Care about Staying another hom in the Service. (She meather is getting quite cool and as the men have no overcouts along and hit beis under Clothes, the duffer much. Un Sich list under about 175. Sicking Itelieve has been caused by a want of the proper Clothing. Remember meto all my fried in Sewisly. Mus Sug, Alfricks bol. S. Slifer Marrishop Pa An. Men fibreip, U.S. Sopographical Ingues high Division was pust present at my del Parade, He pails as a high an plaint and wished his whal Division was like

Head Quarters 129th Pa. Vol's, Camp Tavern, Md., October 29th, 1862.

Dear Colonel:-

We are still anchored here on the banks of the Potomac, waiting until the "army is rested and recruited" before we are to follow the enemy.

The time I am told has now arrived, and that we will march tomorrow. But just as we learn that we are likely to march against the enemy we hear that he has <u>fallen back behind the</u> <u>Rappahannock</u>. So it goes. We will now have to march far from our supplies and base of operations, and I deprecate from the bottom of my heart another campaign down in Virginia. I am tired of <u>field service</u>, and would gladly retire now to my home, or to some position where I might make a living for the present, be useful, and at the same time be comfortable. The cold damp

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weather has brought in occasional attacks of rheumatism in my back and shoulder. I shall be glad if it gets no worse._

Our would-be-great Brig. General has been having several Brigade Drills, and I assure you any man will search all military works in vain if he desires to find in them his Commands and some of his movements. I never heard such absurd commands, but understanding what he wants to do or something near it, I get along, while others blunder like a man in the dark. I would think myself a poor excuse if I could not do one hundred times better and give far greater satisfaction. He explains nothing, perhaps for the good and sufficient reason that does not know how. For my part I want none of his instruction, but if he consults me will offend him [sure?].

I believe I mentioned once before that we were commanded, (I mean this Division of Pennsylvanians) so far as Brigadiers

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are concerned by an Ohio and a Massachusetts men. Our Brigade is a close corporation of an Ohio Stamp. I mean the General and his <u>entire</u> staff. Now since he has been in command of Penn'a men, he has had several vacancies on his staff, and does he fill them as he should from Penn'a Regiments? Far from it. The concern (Ohio) must remain intact, and he therefore sends to Ohio Regiments (mostly for to the 7th) to fill his vacancies. This is a poor compliment to Penn'a Officers under his command, besides being notoriously unjust. Gen. Slocum, when we joined him had an officer in his staff from three of the four Regiments then composing his Brigade. Soon afterwards he gave a chance to our Regiment in room of the 26th N. Y. but unfortunately as was the case with most of Colonel Cake's selections, the young man was not competent. He was a son of <u>the President of the Farmers Bank</u>. He again detailed his brother-in-law (Huntzinger) as and as any sane man would expect, was also

[page break]

sent to rejoin his Regiment. It was not Gen. Steven's fault that a Penn'a was not on his Staff. Here no chance is presented, and we are constantly insulted and annoyed by these <u>foreigners</u>. So upon the whole we are unpleasantly situated. I, at least who has a very sensitive [mind?] feel humiliated, and don't care about staying another hour in the Service.

The weather is getting quite cool and as the men have no overcoats along and but few under clothes, they suffer much. Our sick list numbers about 175. This sickness I believe has been caused by a want of the proper clothing.

Remember me to all my friends in Lewisburg.

Yours Truly, J. G. Frick

Col. E. Slifer Harrisburg, Pa

Gen. Humphrey's U. S. Topographical Engeers [one word illegible] Division was just present at my dress parade. He paid us a high compliment and wished his whole Division was like my Regiment. A compliment from such a [source?] is worth mentioning.

Compneae Frederickship, Var, Et. 141863. Dear Jol; Un. blidder, fortunin-law of Car. Anoting has arrived here, and with his your letter of the 29th. letter of the 29th. Har baro from. Rufall in Washington but energy not see that much hag been effected in our matter. Im. Rupsell hug met you. you phresp, who had either been Summing to Washington to an = Seven for his Orimes as one of the Mcblellan later ring a hay give there to ask for what would while ask for this, biz: - promotion and a higher command. When asking by lyn. Kufall about bot Amstring Dicknep, he actually toly him that he was not sick. The mittigated has. Any this two, after personal application had hele made to him by an Diferris as will as the Brigade Sugar to See Armstrug who the represented to him as her Sick Thencen = themen certify to these facts trying. Besides this when the army was ordered forward on the 21 relt, because of the el-health of with of

us an antidance was ordered by the Lurgers for us to finde in. This fact he also knew for Seeing the auchilance, which was a new enerith goog horses attached to it, and after bing told that it was apipul to us, he took it to have forage for his trosses, and bent us an old dilapidated me that he had about his Head Quarters at the time. These are actual facts. Col. Amstrup hott is Somewhat informed but he is not yet a well man h any mians. He had a very Servere Sickup for the Jup of two weeks, which was allering. In Character with the above withins lie is another he told from Rufsell, big: - That he had a quat deal of trouble with leal. " Sriels" that he had frequently Jiso being orders hefre". This utlered false, and to of the efficiency of the Reprinent and my obility as an officer, to myself and to others. He often Raig to me that he dishing all of the Regiments in his Division were like the 129? And even Since his entrage upon and when in his Sober Senses (the early part of the Day) he told one of my Capitains who is specially ditailed in his Staff, that I was was a Dammed fity these are the best officers in

my Divisin"-"my Crack Regiment te, Bhere thing an Susceptible of Junof. And now weither Henphrip a Mr. Syler Can en Say that I ever directly disobly an order gives to me. I emplo I have exercised my own judgment in regard to the execution of Serve orders Theme he = ceived in the past from You. Syler, but in dring So t complyed with the orders indirectly and in according with currect militar traching and the prescribed, tactics of the army Shis may have given offener, and I presume it dig but I was not to blame. The me and to blane who prescribe standard works for the querment of the arm and insist upon them Aring the text books. I have long Siver learned that it has for a officer to know two much in the any and especially is it unfortunate for him if he Knows more than the Vineral Offeers ever Im. I and not two modest to say this has been my misfortune, and the Syler at least her blen houst erempt to acknowledge my ablit, and for the last three months he never matters a movement dear is constant consulting me, In the Day of the hatte he say to me, I wish to my loolmel I hay your Request in the light toda, my proper place

being in the extreme left. But Sir, when the hand fighting commenced he sig take my Request and place it in fint, and the people heard of that Day shows the work we dig and the position we were and - Vout Veneral Rufull certain is Loldier complete See the improbability of the Story Since he Remos that no Quarters, but this on the entroy it must go things the Then duanters of the Brigade and therefore a Brigadi ade and if disobeyed must neceparil he disoludience of the orders for the latter theay Quarters. you. Syles has written there times to me. One of his chier, arising here the other night, with whom he bent the nong"that this were working right" that he had not ate remotest and to the whole thing resulting in loo. Frickis getting a Star in his shundled instead of the Englis, if his efforts were properly beender & the Colmet's Parmyte = van friends" I thereine the Fine feels print to me, and the "wish may have been Bather to the thinght, - The entrage upon me has been de great, and my militar aspi= = rations So much Sampened, that if an appointment of the King way tendered me I might everal accept. Danig end, think of it, because it using he a trimphon not only one How phrys, but one doe and Man bake who are making the most of typy timbles, and evenleting If disnifed for the Service I shall ask my priend, to cary me to be re-instatul, and the of they cannot success in getting my Regiment trans=

5 = ferred for the Hen plues Division in accordan with the amanimus wishes of Officers on f men in the Requient I Shall ask then to get the See-=retary to accept my resignation on I give me and honrable discharge for the army. I cannot, and my manhord & Serving huger under a man that is a commun liar a general, a gube is Destitute of the first Spann of hund. I could not have any heart to Serve the conty luger under Such circumstances, and could not the useful .-I hope then this much will be one for me if hun. Sylvis high expectations in regard to primotion are not realized. I pear malip some one comes here either with ~ without (the finer will be better) orders from Secretary In a copy of the proceeding which Should have been Sent to Washigton long ago, and brig the attention of the authorities to un cases we will be Rept here a long time. How pheep would not be togong to keep the orders back after they were but to his Horad Learters, for the purpose of armying us as much

as popille. He has omethis frequently heper and because of this disposition bol. E. Day allen 155 the Arts (four Batshight very after calls his the fidgen hole Greenal. meral. Col. Amstrup Souther-in-law is quig to try to get him furlingh in Washigton based on a Surgens certificate the beging of this week. If he Succeed 2 will be left alme to enjoy the Sweet Comforts of this place (m Regiment has not been pair yet. It is in sal Reprient in the Division thathere mit here praid. The men rient their more much and I heve will get it som. Tol bake is making hig effects to have the made a Bryadier meral. And So hopeful is the latter that the has abready brught a general & frees Swrighett. He made Similar preparations last writer_he may be citappointed as thew. Hoping to get out of this place son and a chance to see you in Washigten when I get Cur. stifesz there & runai

Camp near Fredericksburg, Va., Feb. 1st, 1863.

Dear Col:-

Mr. [Chidsey], father-in-law of Col. Armstrong has arrived here, and with him your letter of the 29th.

He saw Gen. Russell in Washington but could not see that much had been effected in our matter. Gen. Russell had met Gen. Humphreys, who had either been summoned to Washington to answer for his crimes as one of the McClellan-Porter ring, or had gone there to ask for what nobody would ask for him, viz:- promotion and a higher command. When asked by Gen. Russell about Col. Armstrong's sickness, he actually told him that he <u>was not</u> sick. The unmittigated liar. And this too, after <u>personal application had been made to him</u> by our surgeons as well as the Brigade Surgeon to see Armstrong who they represented to him as very sick. These gentlemen certify to these facts today. Besides this, when the Army was ordered forward on the 21st ult., because of the ill-health of both of

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us, an ambulance was ordered by the Surgeons for us to ride in. This fact he also knew, for seeing the ambulance, which was a new one with good horses attached to it, and after being told that it was assigned to us, he took it to haul forage for his horses, and sent us an old dilapidated one that he had about his Head Quarters at the time. These are actual facts. Col. Armstrong's health is somewhat improved but he is not yet a well man by any means. He had a very severe sickness for ten days or two weeks, which was alarming.

In character with the above notorious lie is another he told Gen. Russell, viz:- "That he had a great deal of trouble with Col. Frick," that "he had frequently disobeyed orders before." This utterly false, and so far from being true, he could never say enough of the efficiency of the Regiment and my ability as an officer, to myself and to others. He often said to me that he wished all of the Regiments in his Division were like the 129th. And even <u>since</u> his outrage upon us, and when in his <u>sober senses</u> (the early part of the day) he told one of my Captains who is specially detailed on his staff, that "it was was a <u>damned pity</u>" __ "these are the best officers in

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my Division" _ "my crack Regiment" &c. These things are susceptible of proof.

And now neither Humphrey's or Gen. Tyler can even say that I ever <u>directly</u> disobeyed an order given to me. I confess I have exercised my own judgment in regard to the execution of some orders I have received in the past from Gen. Tyler, but in doing so complyed with the orders <u>indirectly</u> and in accordance with <u>correct military</u> teachings, and the prescribed tactics of the Army. This may have given offence, and I presume it did, but I was not to blame. Those only are to blame who prescribe standard works for the government of the Army and insist upon them being the text books. I have long since learned that it is bad for an officer to <u>know too</u> <u>much</u> in the Army, and especially is it unfortunate for him if he knows more than the General Officers over him. I am not too modest to say this has been my misfortune, and Gen. Tyler at least has been honest enough to acknowledge my ability, and for the last three months he never

made a movement scarcely, without consulting me. On the day of the battle he said to me, "I wish to God Colonel I had your Regiment on the right today," my proper place

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being on the extreme left. But sir, when the hard fighting commenced <u>he did</u> take my Regiment and <u>place it in front</u>, and the fearful record of that day shows the work we did and the position we were in._ But General Russell certainly is soldier enough to see the improbability of the story, since he knows that <u>no order can be issued directly to me</u> from Division Head Quarters, but that on the contrary it must go through the Head Quarters of the Brigade, and therefore a Brigade order and if disobeyed must necessarily be disobedience of the orders from the latter Head Quarters.

Gen. Tyler has written three times to me. One of his officers arrived here the other night, with whom he sent the word "that things were working right" _ that "he had not the remotest doubt of the whole thing resulting in Col. Frick's getting a <u>star</u> on his shoulder instead of the <u>Eagles</u>, if his efforts were properly [seconded?] by the Colonel's Pennsylvan friends." I believe the General feels friendly to me, and the "wish may have been Father to the thought." – The outrage upon me has been so great, and my military aspirations so much dampened, that if an appointment of the kind was tendered me I would scarcely accept. I could only think of it, because it would be a triumphed not only over Humphry's, but over Joe and Hen Cake who are making the most of my troubles, and circulating the most infamous lies about it._

If dismissed from the Service I shall ask my friends to aid me to be re-instated, and then if they cannot succeed in getting my Regiment trans-

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ferred from Gen. Humphrey's Division in accordance with the unanimous wishes of officers and men in the Regiment. I shall ask them to get the Secretary to accept my resignation and give me an honorable discharge from the Army. I cannot, and will not sacrifice my self-respect and degrade my manhood by serving longer under, a man that is a common liar and drunkard, and who is destitute of the first spark of humor. I could not have any heart to serve the country longer under such circumstances, and could not be useful._ I hope then this much will be done for me, if Gen. Tyler's high expectations in regard to promotion are not realized.

I fear unless some one comes here either with or without (the former would be better) orders from Secretary for a copy of the proceedings which should have been sent to Washington long ago, and brings the attention of the authorities to our cases we will be kept here a long time. Humphreys would not be too good to keep the orders back after they were sent to his Head Quarters, for the purpose of annoying us as much

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as possible. He has done this frequently before, and because of this disposition Col. E. Jay Allen 155th Pa. Vol's (from Pittsburgh) very aptly calls him the pidgeon hole General.

Col. Armstrong's Father-in-law is going to try to get him a furlough in Washington based on a Surgeons certificate the beginning of this week. If he succeeds I will be left alone to enjoy the <u>sweet comforts</u> of this place.

Our Regiment has not been paid yet. It is the only Regiment in the Division that has not been paid. The men need their money much and I hope will get paid soon.

Joe Cake is making big efforts to have Hen made a Brigadier General. And so hopeful is the latter that he has <u>already bought a General Officers Swordbelt</u>. He made similar preparations last winter _ he may be disappointed as then.

Hoping to get out of this place soon and a chance to see you in Washington when I get there, I remain

Very Truly Yours, Jacob G. Frick

Col. E. Slifer

Aran lot, Daring gesterdy. Have been Cashing. She settine was approved foril Burnistis the by he left the aring notintestal the court manning recommended a remit. = Sim of the bentener. Amisting's oase hughert been actomined not, bit presiden it would y last night. I calling to see how Rufall ystudy aftern and demplo to did not expect to fileine such weg treatment. Mr. Chidley (Amsting' Saturin law) Spoke of it, He manifested no dis= -position to hear her or read the fort doan-The Adjutant. He said we slowed call in the evening. We did to and he ever ent. We the called this moring and think in his noon were not admitted. We then called in two. butin, and I complet again my Surprise at his indifference and his must of Disine to talk i hear anything about the

matter. I asked lime to let me greaf the statement of facts in enneating with the total Freally to not this anything can be Ane mely you will come you. Juty thapevell make here togy. I your with the latter and how. Pollow would can here and get the Kinna delegation to go with you to the Resident, as him Type Days they will Me willing to Do, the matthe could be bet hight Amptle, M. Syler Days he will ac-entropy and start to the Resident = pustice the me, and he does not have a Doubt of the result. He is worked in The matter very hard lit it needs some me to muster in Paris fried. Mr. Chidry this in one hope is as just indicated. The matter Shulf le attended to not in the spirit, Duish you could are I not I must give it up, ag bear the disqual, Thave for fun merital. Inharte IlbFrick

Metropolitan Hotel, Washington Feb. 3d '63

Dear Col:-

I arrived yesterday. I have been cashiered. The sentence was approved by Gen'l Burnsides the day he left the Army, notwithstanding the court unanimously recommended a remission of the sentence. Armstrong's case had not been determined yet, but presume it would by last night.

I called to see Gen. Russell yesterday afternoon and I confess I did not expect to receive such cold treatment. Mr. [Chidsey?] (Armstrong's Father-in-law) spoke of it. He manifested no disposition to hear me or read the joint document prepared by myself Armstrong, Auttorny & the Adjutant. He said we should call in the evening. We did so and he was out. We then called this morning and though in his room were not admitted. We then called on Gov. Curtain, and I confess again my surprise at his indifference and his want of desire to talk or hear anything about the

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matter. I asked him to let me read the statement of the facts in conversation with the whole matter but he gave no reply. [one illegible word].

I really do not think anything can be done unless you will come here. Judge Maxwell may be here today. If you with the latter and Gov. Pollock would come here and get the Penna Delegation to go with you to the President, as Gen. Tyler says they will be willing to do, the matter would be set right promptly. Gen. Tyler says he will accompany you and detail to the President the matter of the outrage and the injustice done me, and he does not have a doubt of the result. He is working in the matter very hard but it needs some one to muster our Penn'a friends. Mr. [Chidsey?] thinks our only hope is as just indicated.

The matter should be attended to now while our Congressional friends here are in the spirit. I wish you could come. If not I must give it up, and bear the disgrace I have far from merited.

In haste, J. G. Frick

Uniterfulitan Motel Mashirtin Dam file With She Greener together with Som Byter and Didy Mayment had a interview with dec Stanton this fremon and hers Disposed to Set aside the findings of the Chut-martial which he thinks injust, but must amont the arrival of the to Say have not arrived yet Say the must be but without one de a this now arene the weeks sice the trial doves an abundance of the to have been here. Vm. Sylen with beher

mitil Monday or Guerday the amy as he thinks it in: Thurs he Rept warn mitil he licens. He wants to go Seciente un again to Sectio. voerville he drug at mer for he instatement, in accordan utte the Deritai's finine -Inge Maxwell has just Que in. He Desires me to La iteal's an have antent his letter to Sur. Starten in yay wetter to So at mer. -Ludge directs me to Say that he must be in the Aputo a huda moring het will be back her at Willows a

Sussa ming when he way lipe to See mipune in Frida weine. I Some her able to be and the second of the se leave fire to have that is health is so has that here health is so has that here health is to have any the of he as that army blue to leave the army blace wind line to have place - Day or Suendy The min Stand

Metropolitan Hotel, Washington, February 5th 1863.

Dear Col:-

The Governor together with Gen. Tyler and Judge Maxwell had an interview with Sec'y Stanton this forenoon, and he is disposed to set aside the findings of the Court-martial, which he thinks unjust, but must await the arrival of the original proceedings. They [strange?] today, have not arrived yet, although the articles of war say they must be sent without delay. It is now nearly three weeks since the trial _ surely an abundance of time to have been here.

Gen. Tyler will be here

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until <u>Monday or Tuesday evening</u>. He would like to <u>see you before he goes to the Army</u>, as he thinks it important that the matter should be kept warm until he leaves. He wants to go with you again to see the Sec'y when he thinks the order will be issued at once for re-instatement, in accordance with the secretary's [promise?] ._

Judge Maxwell has just came in. He desires me to say that if you have [not sent?] his letter to Mr. Stanton you had better do so at once._ Judge directs me to say that he must be in New York on Monday morning, but will be back here at [William's?] on

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Tuesday morning when he would like to see you._

I shall leave here for home on Friday evening. I do not feel able to bear unnecessary expense. If necessary I will be back again by the middle of next week. If I am re-instated and can be transferred from Gen. Humphrey's Division I will remain in the Service _ if not I will leave forever._

Col. Quay tells me that his health is so bad that he may be compelled to quit here. If so and I am compelled to leave the Army I would like to have his place._ Do not fail to be here on Monday or Tuesday.

Truly Yours, J. G. Frick

Draufoli, Pattaille, February 11the 1863, Darring home in Saturday night. Show for I have received no definite news fre Washigton. The whole hisings will remain in Statu que, I presure miles sum me wigs the Secretary of war to act in the matter promptly. Me certaine must have he= = eine the vigual proceedings of the Crut, by this time. (She last I heard from Camp was that fol. Amstrong was quite Siek, and Still under ar= =rest. - Ameral Syler was exceeding anxing tobe you in Washington the hegining of this weeks. This you have had a chance to be thin, - I shall remain here mitil I hear smithing definite about my matters at Washington, Juns Srul Jacoby Field, lool, E. Sliper, R. J.

Pottsville, February 11th, 1863.

Dear Col:-

I arrived home on Saturday night. Thus far I have received no definite news from Washington. The whole business will remain in <u>status quo</u>, I presume, unless some one urges the Secretary of War to act in the matter promptly. He certainly must have received the original proceedings of the court, by this time.

The last I heard from camp was that Col. Armstrong was quite sick, and still under arrest._ General Tyler was exceedingly anxious to see you in Washington the beginning of this week. I hope you have had a chance to see him._ I shall remain here until I hear something definite about my matters at Washington.

> Yours Truly, Jacob G. Frick

Col. E. Slifer Harrisburg, Pa.

mund bett atthe Putterile, March 24, 1863 Dranfel: metword Odus ma litter receives toog Jun hapt. Rufsell 95 Pa. Jal's In the hand of his Sen. Har feels have by the light a glave man. heaven with the Housand in what way one the provert hartines mon the new dilitic sile Tole offinited & Can entire ht husing and muthor for Shutting to Do, and while for Shutting to Do, and while Jun a tolenel to Provert Mailale

with the rann of Capitani my Straitened Circumstances. Here in Mashingtons he told me he might he employ to de higherse of have that. Mut Islump a throwing tring prefer a good chance to go into a busing that might he made a permanent and drepation and Do my King I Such been talking tome about the Plaining till hising in theter which I presime charly he made in workey upinto

a good husing but the have no Capital. My future prospects tranche and vary much. Mis Soul Hetrick lal. E. Sliper, Puz

Pottsville, March 24, 1863.

Dear Col:-

Inclosed I send you a letter received today from Capt. Russell 96th Pa. Vol's by the hand of his son. He feels badly at the injustice done his son who is a very active, intelligent and brave young man. I have noticed his conduct in battle and was much pleased with it._

How and in what way are the Provost Marshall's under the new Militia Bill to be appointed? I am entirely out of business and must look for something to do, and while I would dislike to fall back from a Colonel to Provost Marshall

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with the rank of Captain, my straitened circumstances, (if nothing else, or no business presents,) would force me to accept such appointment if offered._

If Col. Quay should leave his place in Washington as he told me he might be compelled to do because of ill health, I would like to have that. But I should a thousand times prefer a good chance to go into a business that might be made a permanent and lucrative one. Do you know of such an opportunity? William has been talking to me about the Plaining Mill business in Chester which I presume could be made or worked up into

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a good business, but the trouble with me is I have no capital. My future prospects trouble me very much.

Yours Truly, J. G. Frick

Col. E. Slifer Harrisburg, Pa.

Pottsille, Aug. 27th, 1963. Dren lee: She Reiding Rail Road loupens is about a ferming entry (Spurchase a desse) of the Unic Hill Rail Road and one quing to make the Changes in the officers was in the anply of the latter company. Being en-ticly which have being compelly to look after something to to I have thought that a chance might be presented for a place when the Reading company took Changed this Road. Anny other offices there is that of inigh-master and evelection (connectory together) that I presume a change will be made in any which pays in the way of a fur dollars a year. I wind like to have this this office in the Canal think Inmy the well fitted for 't. I can get plant of the the President to make the Change, which

I learn he contemplates dring anythesite = deep der. Burg Patterson has alread sporken to Mr. Smith of Phileder (the Reident) about the matter, and be has made a menine Sund it. Linste yn mulf goto the City to See the Pleasant of the Reading Road. Atting yn can why Easil manto make a change, he will grarante that he can arrenge though for me. Mother the are dripped to change this Officeron wet I cannot Say. I all hear that the purpose making a steam Sweep. If this is the fact you can help the matter n. I Romo that there has been agent of the two and amis in the past. Just after I had got home from the 9 months Service I opened negotiations with the N. Y. Win Kailing bu, through Lemondethe ers by this atting for the exclusion lifet North buties, and had partially arranged

matter when the State was invaded. thoughthe day heper & hept for Hoarris = - Iring to take thang of a Arilitia Regiment in response to the periestent importanties of Mr. Curtin and Maj. S. C. (mer. Hund Set apart to crisimmente the bisimp in Philude I water her, Myers the faits and presiming the emply await in return. Shy dig holg the lease for me mutil within ten Days of the time & cally upon them (which ma immediated after I got time, which they pressing my stay winds he indepinite and not kning when him they leaves to another part. Drows thus theme wit of a most excellent hising which would have been permanent. In. Myers exprised quest regret when he sens me and said he dweight as it would be for the interest of the Company as he had toly them before he endy get anonge matters, perhaps with the Sepre . Hois last letter tone was not very encomaging and I feer that I am entities the later to shape the matter in any way. This Company had Succeeded in

Stopping loak to and Sitzinger Ho, and ever first making a clim field in the rigin. I Runs of no other huging that Irmely have preferry. to an initermptoy chance at the Screen hisnep. go to the City without delay to Luch. Smith I think that you can put the thing in the right shape for me. The transfer of the Stand and changes and I learn indirectly from the Asime Will Freasurer are to be made, very som. Juns Tuly Jet. Frick. ar. S. Sliper : Manshy Pa. ful to pot the start of je ling . the 1 april and, and theme ever the the second + + b to

Pottsville, Aug. 27th, 1863.

Dear Col:-

The Reading Rail Road Company is about assuming control (by purchase or lease) of the Mine Hill Raid Road and are going to make some changes in the officers now in the employ of the latter company. Being entirely out of business and being compelled to look after something to do, I have thought that a chance might be presented for a place when the Reading Company took charge of this Road. Among other offices there is that of weigh–master and collector (connected together) that I presume a change will be made in and which pays in the way of a percentage in the tonnage about three thousand dollars a year. I would like to have this office, and from my experience in the Collectors Office in the Canal, think I would be well fitted for it. I can get plenty of the very best recommendations here, if you can get the President to make the change, which

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I learn he contemplates doing anyhow. Indeed Mr. Burd Patterson has already spoken to Mr. Smith of Philada (the President) about the matter, and he has made a memorandum of it. I wish you would go to the city to see the President of the Reading Road. I think you can very easily manage the matter. Burd Patterson tells me that if the company determines to make a change, he will guarantee that he can arrange things for me. Whether they are disposed to change this officer or not I cannot say. I only hear that they purpose making a clean sweep. If this is the fact you can help the matter on. I know that there has been a great deal of antagonism between the officers of the two companies in the past.

Just after I had got home from the 9 months service I opened negotiations with the N. Y. Wire Railing Co, through Leonard Myers, Esq. their attorney, for the exclusive right to use their patent in this, Carbon and North Counties, and had partially arranged

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matters when the State was invaded. Indeed the day before I left for Harrisburg to take charge of a Militia Regiment in response to the persistent importunities of Gov. Curtin and Maj. Gen. [Cunch?], I had set apart to consummate the business in Philada. I wrote Mr. Myers the facts and presumed they would await my return. They did hold the lease for me until within ten days of the time I called upon them, (which was immediately after I got home) when they presumed my stay would be indefinite and not knowing where I was, they leased to another party. I was thus thrown out of a most excellent business which would have been permanent. Mr. Myers expressed great regret when he saw me, and said he thought, as it would be for the interest of the company as he has told them before, he could yet arrange matters, perhaps with the [one word illegible]. His last letter to me was not very encouraging, and I fear that I am entirely too late to shape the matter in any way. This Company had succeeded in

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stopping Cake Ho. and Seitzinger Ho. and were just making a clean field in the region. I know of no other business that I would have preferred to an uninterrupted chance at the screen-business.

I wish you could make it convenient to go to the city without delay to see Mr. Smith. I think that you can put the thing in the right shape for me. The Transfer of the Road and changes I are to learn indirectly from the Mine Hill Treasurer, are to be made very soon.

Yours Truly, J. G. Frick

Col. E. Slifer Harrisburg, Pa.