

Recd Dec 13th. O. V. C
Cavalry Depot near
City Point Va

Dear Father

Dec. 20th 1864

I am afraid you will think I am not keeping my promise very well of writing once a week. Since my return I have very busy tending to my duties connected with the regiment. My reception by both officers and men was very flattering. I found my new Major (Rupel) had completely pleased with, and I think will have to leave the service. Last week I received an order from Army Head Quarters transferring my regiment to the Second Division Cavalry Corps. and an order from Gen. Gregg ordering me here to be mounted. We have received all our equipments except arms. The arms drawn for us were issued to the first Div. the day before I came here and we will now have to wait till others come from Washington. I have five hundred men mounted and had them out on drill this morning they made a fine appearance and I think I have a right to be proud of my regiment. We are to be armed with Sharps Carbines, Colts Army Pistols, and the light Cavalry Saber, which shall make us terrors to our enemies.

Our Surgeon Major came a few

days before I returned. I like him very much and think he will prove quite an advantage to the medical department of the regiment. Col Dixon is not yet reinstated nor do I know whether he will be. If he is his friends in the regiment will advise him to resign at once as they think he is not qualified for the position. The weather has been very fine since my return more like fall than winter. There is some indications of a move on the left of our line by our forces but they will not leave us in for it this time. The news from all quarters is very good and we hope that by spring the most of the fighting will be over and we can all go home, but if it should not be we can stand it as long as the rebels can, and want them to be perfectly satisfied before they stop. I hope you get a long with the work without exposing yourself too much. I have more fears of your over doing than any thing else. You must try and get as long as easy as possible till I can come home to work for you.

My health is very good better than it has been for several months. I have had three letters from Orls. since my return she is well as usual. I could not find a duplicate copy of my muster out roll in Washington but can obtain it here and will get my pay as soon as I can find a paymaster who has money.

As soon as I get paid I will send
you money enough to pay all
our debts and help live. I was
sorry I could not get it while at-
home but it will be good when it does
come. I was glad to get your
letter it done me a great deal
of good and you must write as
often as you can find time and feel
able.

My love to all

Your affectionate Son
S. R. Church