

. 18th 1863 =

Camp at Soldiers Home July

Dear Brother

I received your letter yesterday & was very glad to hear from you. I am glad to hear that you are all well, for there is nothing like having a good health especially in war times. I am well at present we have a good time out here in the country we have a large country that we can stray around in with out being afraid of being taken by the Patrols as we were when in the city. for we could not go up town with out a Pass with out being afraid of going to the Guard House now we dont have to get a pass ^{the Country} to go round

The Guard duty here is not so hard as it was at the White House, we have the same number of men on Guard as we had at the City but we only stand six hours a day but have a bigger load to carry we have forty Rounds of Ball cartridges and have the fun of shooting at the Target every other morning but it takes 15 minutes to clean up the gun again you can see yourself in the guns when they are in order for Inspection we are to have a General Inspection on Monday if it dont rain all day there has been a great deal of rain here for the last week. our Capt got a letter from Spiran^k Killgore 1st Yeoman in com A used to be our Orderly

he said there was only 133
men in the regiment left
fit for duty at the time
he wrote. Pose you think
I am married but I am not
Aunt left in March & there
is a white cook in her place
she is a nice good looking
woman. there is green corn
in the market here & has been
for some time we have a Pole
up here 50 ft high. Had got a
flag & a brass Eagle for the
top it is the nicest Pole in
the town I got the 25^{cts}
our fellows are battering at
fort Sumpter & Charleston will
soon be our it is reported taken
in the morning Paper.

I must close hoping to hear
from you soon I remain
Your Brother still
Willard D. Cutler