

Selma Alabama

May, 15, 1865

My dear People,

Here we are at Selma, where we arrived yesterday afternoon, left Montgomery last Wednesday and were five days on the road, the first day, only got across the river, and yesterday marched but eight miles, the other three days made long marches, the whole distance is but forty five miles, but we had to go a long way round on account of the bridges being burnt, only our Div. came here, and make this Hd. Qrs. keep the 3^d Briade Col Marshall's, Our Brigade goes to Demopolis on the Tombigbee, and the V^{se} is going to Meridian & Jackson Miss. -- We go from here by rail & I expect shall get off tomorrow, I was our marching is over, we have got on to a line of Rail Road and I hope shall keep on it as long as we stay in the service, and I hope that wont be very long, I heard last night that all the /DV men are to be mustered out very soon, and the sooner the better will suit me for I am sicker & sicker all the time, our regt, is about played out, and everybody seems to be trying to make the remaining time as unpleasant as possible from the Col.

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society

(Coll. 2092, Box 1A/3)

Date: May 15, 1865

Description: Letter to family from Moses Greenleaf

down, to me, of course I am just as pleasant as possible
but that is not possible all the time, with such a crowd
about; Our Col is a perfect ~ & growing more so every day
& most of the officers are about like him, and agree
only on one point, that is to hate the Col, and make
all the fuss possible, and all together we have a very
pleasant time. I am afraid when I get home I shall have
fewer friends than ever, I am getting so I hate most every
body, but myself. Of all the officers in the regt, there are but
two I would give a straw to ever see again after
we get out of the service, unless they are different
citizens from what they are officers.

This was one of the finest towns in the whole south
at the beginning of the war and the largest manufactory
of war materials except Richmond, when Wilson came in
he burned all the foundries & public property & most of
the stores & some private dwellings were also burned
and the town sadly torn up, but it's a beautiful town
yet. Some of the finest streets I ever saw, one has
a row of fountains each side for a long distance
and all nicely shaded - contains about seven thousand
inhabitants, and not a union man among them. I guess
our J[?] town boys received worse treatment here than
at any other place, on their route, but they will get

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them pay with interest; The weather is very warm, but the nights are cool & about daylight very cold, so I shiver about an hour every morning since we have been on the march and had to get up at three, I've concluded not to settle in this country. We received a mail the morning we left Montgomery, and for me your letter of the 21, April, only nineteen days on the way, I don't see why it need take any mail so long to get round, but after this I hope it will come thro by rail from Vicksburg. I've not heard anything from Fred Merrill for some time & should not be surprised if he was at Shakopee now as they were giving furloughs to those that wanted them, the last I knew of him he was at Marine Hospital N.O. & doing first rate.

The wild fruit is getting ripe, but we have had but very little, some mulberries & blackberries

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altho there is very little to buy that we cannot
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falling away very much, and was never in better health.

Remember me to all

Yours
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