

U.S. Sloop Housatonic of Charlest  
Oct 26th 1862

Dear Mother

I had almost given up getting a letter as nearly all the men have two or three but it came last night and I can tell you it was welcome for it is awful dull music laying of here with nothing for excitement we have had a little this week there was a steamer run the blockade last wednesday night and we were called out to quarters the gun boat Flombeau fired at her but she ~~run~~ run in shoal water and got in safe and a ~~steamer~~ steamer was captured last night by the gun boat Brenbill she has on board fifteen thousand stand of arms as yet I have not learned her name

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so you see I shall have some  
prize money but as the fleet is  
so large I dont think there will  
be more than a cent apiece  
Angier is going to send home for  
some things and I want you  
to send me my black monkey  
jacket you can put it in  
with his things ~~it will~~ you  
can send it for a dollar  
you can put some apples in  
to that is if you want to  
~~send it~~ Angier and myself  
are both well but I must say  
this life is anything but pleasant  
to either of us I wish there  
would be a steamer try to run  
the blockade every night so as to  
have some excitement Sue Hyde  
wrote that Louis Fields has enlisted  
I did not think he would he  
started so many times and  
backed out

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I should think Freeport would  
look as if it was deserted  
now there is so many gone from  
right round the corner Sue Hyde  
writes that she went to a  
party to Mrs Litchfield's  
and that Bill and Howard  
were the only Boys there tell  
Father that I thought he had  
come in the navy for I see  
in one of the Boston papers  
that a Capt John Dillingham of  
Maine had been appointed acting  
master for one of the new vessels  
I do not know as I have anything  
more to write tell Bill that  
I have wrote him two letters  
and that I think he might write  
me now kiss little Bertha for me  
and tell her to be a good little  
girl write as often as you can  
for you cant tell how good it seems  
to get a letter here

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Send them things as soon as  
possible your affectionate son

J M Dillingham

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