

Boston Aug 22^d 1862

Dear Mother

I received your letter on Tuesday and I was very glad to hear that it got home safe for I was very doubtful as to the matter. Anger and myself are cooks for this week which is nearly out we have got on grandly I can tell you we have the largest mess there is 28 in it and we always get our dishes washed up first Anger and my self was drafted on board

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Freeport Historical Society

Date: Aug. 22, 1862

Description: Letter to Margaret Dillingham from her son, John

the Housatonic yesterday
and the Lieutenant gave
us our station Angers is
at a hundred pound rifle
gun mounted on the fore-castle
and mine at a 11 inch pivot
gun carrying a 220 pound shot
and it is my opinion that
if any secesh gets that in size
of his head it will be apt
to knock him twice his length
we shall probably stay here a
week if not longer before going
on board there I did not think
when I came on board here
I should have the good luck
to get in here for there was
about six hundred here before
us but any how we was picked
out from the crowd. Tell
Bill I wish he was here
to go with us ask him

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if he dont think that
big barker will make
a noise when we fire
her I dont know as I have
any more news to write.
~~without it is~~ without it is
that I like being cooky
first rate that I think
will be news tell Beckie
Julia Woodbury was on
board here last monday.
write often for you have
a better chance then I
do I must close now for
it is time to get dinner
and I am first cook
from your affectionate son
J M Dillingham

PS when you write send
two three postage stamps
for I cannot get any here
JMD

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