

Richmond Va.
Nov- 13- 1863

Servant - I am anxious about my baggage. Several times I have written to Capt. Miller about it, as my Fred. had done, but we get no reply. Will it be too much trouble for you to send Brackett or some other reliable person to see after it. I left at my quarters at the Paraket

- 1- Canvas Cov^d trunk - 2 - Black trunks
- 3 long low chest - 4 Ammunition Box of Books - and perhaps some other articles - in a closet in a Back chamber - Col. Kingman's chamber of N. H. 15th.
- 5 A Mess Chest in closet in lower front room.

I should be very sorry to lose these as they contain all my uniforms and outfit - At the Picayune Building in N.O. are 1 camp bedstead - iron - 2 Mattress, and bedding in a bag - 3 A large Mail bag - all are marked plainly - the black trunk only has a card - the rest - paint - I want it sent home - Am sorry to trouble you, but know no one else at N.O. to whom to apply. My servant (colored) at Port Hudson had the rest of my baggage. The Rebellion is at the last gasp. Gold is now 1 for 15, here, and a decided defeat would instantly bring it down to zero. The regular price of currency here is Fifty Million a Month Flour \$110 to \$125. Corn Meal \$15 a bush - Potatoes \$20 at retail - Meat \$2. Pork \$2.50 - Molasses \$20. Duck \$8. Everything else in proportion - Virginia Bank Bills 1 to 3 for Confed!! Mobile Bank Bills 1 to 4!! It is not possible for the Rebels to raise another army - or to put more near into the field. They have now all the force out, that they can hopefully raise. At Mobile, I had conferences and talked with a great many soldiers, officers, citizens, and conscripts - 3/4 of the people desire the speedy end of the war on any terms. I learned the secret history of secession and all about the manipulation of the leaders.

Richmond Va.
Nov- 13 1863

General - I am anxious about my baggage. Several times, I have written to Capt. Miller about it, as my Fred. has done, but we get no reply. Will it be too much trouble for you to send Brackett or some other reliable person to see after it. I left at my quarters at the Paraket

- 1- Canvas Cov^d trunk - 2 - Black trunks
- 3 long low chest - 4 Ammunition Box of Books - and perhaps some other articles - in a closet in a Back chamber - Col. Kingman's chamber of N. H. 15th.
- 5 A Mess Chest in closet in lower front room.

I should be very sorry to lose these as they contain all my uniforms and outfit - At the Picayune Building in N.O. are 1 camp bedstead - iron - 2 Mattress, and bedding in a bag - 3 A large Mail bag - all are marked plainly - the black trunk only has a card - the rest - paint -

I want it sent home - Am sorry to trouble you, but know no one else at N.O. to whom to apply. My servant (colored) at Port Hudson had the rest of my baggage. The Rebellion is at the last gasp. Gold is now 1 for 15, here, and a decided defeat would instantly bring it down to zero. the regular price of currency here is Fifty Million a Month Flour \$110 to \$125. Corn Meal \$15 a bush - Potatoes \$20 at retail - Meat \$2--- Pork \$2.50 - Molasses \$20, Duck \$8- Everything else in [?] - Virginia Bank Bills 1 to 3 for Confed!! Mobile Bank Bills 1 to 4!! it is not possible for the Rebels to raise another army - or to put more near into the field. they have [?] all the force out, that they can hopefully raise. At Mobile, I had conferences and talked with a great many soldiers, officers, citizens, and conscripts - 3/4 of the people desire the speedy end of the war on any terms. I learned the secret history of secession and all about the manipulation of the leaders.

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society

MMN # 76190

Date: November 13, 1863

Description: Neal Dow wrote to George F. Shepley asking that his personal belongings be sent to him in prison.

Among others, I had a long conversation
with Col. Yancey brother of the late Wm L. Y -
the Richmond papers no longer talk of a
"Glorious triumph" of the Confederacy, but
speak of perishing bravely under its falling
ruins - A crushing defeat of Bragg will
end the struggle - as a War on a large scale.
Lee could not sustain himself in the
Northern Va. nor even in the Shenandoah.
but must retire and form a junction
with Bragg's remains - which would be
small, as 1/2 of his army would go home -
as many of the men will, at any rate, before
Christmas. Lee's army could not be
supported here in the event of Bragg's defeat
His supplies came from that direction, and
the cutting off the R. Roads at Augusta, Atlanta
and Waldon and Raleigh would compel
the evacuation of Richmond. Even by
the Rebel Govt - Where could it find rest?

This goes by private conveyance -
which may be continued.

Respectfully
Brig. Gen.
Geo. F. Shepley
Military Governor
of Louisiana
New Orleans.

Respectfully
Neal Dow
Brig. Gen.
U.S.V.

My A. A. Gen. Oliver Matthews
if in N.O. will know about my baggage
and servant - "Edward" - He (Matthews)
was here in the New England - I left him
with Col. Clark of the 6th Mich.

Among others, I had a long conversation
with Col. Yancey brother of the late Wm L. Y -
the Richmond papers no longer talk of a
"Glorious triumph" of the Confederacy, but
speak of perishing bravely under its falling
ruins - A crushing defeat of Bragg will
end the struggle - as a War on a large scale.
Lee could not sustain himself in this
Northern Va. nor even in [?]
but must retire and form a junction
with Bragg's remains - which would be
small, as 1/2 of his army would go home -
as many of the men will, at any rate, before
Christmas. Lee's army could not be
supported here in the event of Bragg's defeat
His supplies came from that direction, and
the cutting off the R. Roads at Augusta, Atlanta
and Waldon and Raleigh would compel
the evacuation of Richmond. Even by
the Rebel Govt - Where could it find rest?

This goes by private conveyance -
which [?] or I would continue.

Respectfully
Brig. Gen. Neal Dow
Geo. F. Shepley Brig. Gen.
Military Governor U.S.V.
of Louisiana
New Orleans.

My A. A. Gen. Oliver Matthews
if in N.O. will know about my baggage
and servant - "Edward" - He (Matthews)
may be with Gen. [?] - I left him
with Col. Clark of the 6th Mich -