

[Transcribed on 4/14/2022]

Catharine I could have started
my letter this fore noon but I
taught I would wate and see if I would
get a letter from you to night and if
I did I could send the answer in
the same invelop stamps are scarce with
me I got a letter from you tonight
Dated June the 18th and was glad to
learn that you were all well I was glad
to hear that you had good luck with
your two sheap. you spoke of Mrs
Collins how she cut sale before she left
tell me the perticulers about it write
it on a slip of paper and put it in the
next letter that you write to me you
spoke of elder Blanchard if he earned
himself any strater than the white head
Blanchard appears just the same here
as he did when he was in york state
I believe he is a good man white head
began to sho the Cloven foot before
we left Portage there was a man took
the job of bording the regt there at Portage

[2]

for a surtain sum per day the Contract
mentioned what the living should
be we were to have potatoes meat and
coffe for breakfast potatoes meat app
le sauce and molasses for dinner
potatoes bread and butter and tea for
supper we were to hav breat every meel
wall I will tell you at supper he would
get down to the table with a lot of rufins
and put them up to steal the large tin
cups off of the table and fill them
with butter and he did take his knife

and cut the butter off of the balls and
cram it in the cups and tell them to fill
them as full as they could and he would
help them to secreat [secret] them and carry it
to the barracks he would giv them the
word now remember me for I help[ed
you to get it so he and sum of the rest that
would steal had all the butter that they
could make use of last week when we were
on a march we were cuming toards CAmp
and were passing one of our regts in the
woods the regt had stoped for us to pass
the men had lade of their lugage to rest
and were busy talking he was marching
by the side of me and close by the side
of the road was a pine tree the men
were about six feet back of the tree
lying in the shade busy talking by the
root of this pine was a nice roll of
rubber and he sprang

[3]

and grabed it and marched rite along
as soon as the regt halted ahe unrolled
it and it was two ruber blankets they
were worth seven or eight Dollars
it looks hard enough to see them steal
from the rebs but when they steal
from our oan men it looks worse
I have seen a great many such
traits in him the amount of the
business is he is a verry selfish man
and is lacking very much of good sound
sence I do not want you to think
that he and I are bad friends for
I never had a quarrel with him
in my life I and Dick and Virn
is about the only ones that can
say so and tell the truthe there has

one sergt left our Company since
we came here to York Town he
has gone to washington to get
a commition in a Negro regt

[4]

he was kinde of a shitass he was
as green as Cabage and allways
trying for promotion in our regt
and could not get any promotion
he heard of a Chance to get a
Commiton in a Negro regt and
got our Lieutenant Colonel to inter
cede for him and I guess he has
got to be Lieut or Capt of a
lot of Negroes I had rather be
a private where I am than to holde
any offise over nigers his name is
Nathan Bradley we have no
first Lieutenant in our Company
yet the most of them thinks that
Allen O Abbot will be promoted
I am shure I dont cair whether he
is or not you spoke of a lady house
in Suffolk I hope you do not think
they Could be got in one house
there was more than five hundred
and I do not kno but there was one

[5]

thousand of such Characters
in Suffolk the offisers would ride
out with them every day they get
them on a horse and the ofisers on
another and ride by the camps and
the guards are oblige to salute them
I mus stop for fear that I shall
say sumthing this is a quear

world and quear people to inhabit
the world

Catharine I am not sorry
that I inlisted and I intend to
liv so as to be ready to die if it
is my lot to die here and if I return
I intend to liv so that my
Character will be as good as it
was before I inlisted and try to
have it better. good Evening

D H to

Catharine and Children