Revolutionary Incident

Shortly after the battle of Monmouth, Capt. — an officer of the American Army Mason on a scouting expedition on a road leading from New Brunswick, his men being at the time stationed in the woods between what is now called John Lane and the Princeton turnpike. On the first turn above the corner of John Lane and in George's road he came suddenly on a company of British soldiers retreating from Monmouth. As he came upon them he was immediately seen by them and they gave pursuit. He instantly turned his horse and fled for his life, after he had turned the corner of the lane he attempted to jump his horse over the fence and take to the woods. (The spot is said to just seventy panels from the corner and the curious reader can easily come just near it by measurement.) But his horse fell upon him and he was left entirely at their mercy. He immediately threw down his arms and surrendered himself a prisoner. But these brave and noble hearted soldiers fell on him and cut him to pieces. A piece of the rail on which fell covered with blood and matted hair was long preserved in the family of A. halls as a relic. The British officer who commanded this brave company was afterwards captured and only saved from lynching by the fully exasperated inhabitants of New 13 through the strenuous efforts of Judge Morris as respected and influential citizen of New 13.

J. L. B. lamott
My dear Madame,

Respecting your son's promotion, his case is so urgent, I can assure you, that I will make every exertion in his case, if his conduct and capacity correspond with his military connections, nothing will give me more pleasure than to do all in my power to advance him a grade. It would be son, purely, fails to the worth of the estimate of those placed over him. Nothing will be more gratifying to me than to see a devoted mother independent of his king.
To Miss of any friend Boss -
my respectful.

D. H. Manigualt

B. Admire

In

Mrs. Mary E. Blansett
New Brunswick
N. Jersey
W.S.S. Tennessee
Pensacola Bay
August 24th 1862

Dear Brother,

I am not going to make a long apology for my long silence as it is useless. Since I last wrote we have been pretty well kicked about. I spent some 10 days on the Pensacola & was then sent on board the river steamer Boston to take the wounded down to Pensacola Town to the Hospital there.

We had some 60 of them on board & such another job I never want. We left New Orleans in such a hurry that nothing was put on board to eat & in consequence we had to live on bread & water for nearly 4 days from the Burton. I came on board this boat & have
been in her ever since she has been employed running up and down the river with coal & stores for the fleet, having been up to Vicksburg 5 times, beside one trip to Bayou Bayou. On our last trip to Vicksburg we had quite a smart brush with an Artillery Battery at Grand Gulf. We opened the ball with a 24 lb. shell and they answered quite lively firing some 35 or 40 shots at us, but did not hit us. It only lasted some 11 minutes as we had not time to stop & parley with them. Several of our transports have been fired into from this place & some few men killed & wounded. Our last bight up the river was to Baton Rouge. On arriving there we found that there had been an attack that morning and our Commissary Office
General Williams killed but the Rebel were driven back. Since we arrived here I hear that our troops have evacuated the place & destroyed it.

It is much to be regretted that Genl. Butler had not had more men here as had we had men enough we could have had the whole river open & have kept it so. But with less than 18,000 men what could be done. It requires at least 10,000 in New Orleans and Baton Rouge 5,000 more Ellis Cliff 3,000 more Fort Adams 3,000 Fort Henry 3,000 Rodney 3,000 Watchez 5,000 and Grand Gulf 5,000 & Vicksburg 5,000 besides one or two other places it would be necessary to garrison to protect the river. In consequence we have been obliged to desert the whole river from New Orleans to Baton Vicksburg, a distance of 400 miles.
On our first appearance before Dickson, we could have taken it had we had men enough to hold it after it was taken, at no time while our fleet was up, there would it have been a very hard job. While we were at Dickson's, the last time I made several trips across to the upper fleet, had a very good view of the city and batteries and also a very close view of some rifled shot that was thrown from them just as I passed in fact one of them struck the tree not more than 2 ft. from where I stood.

New Orleans is in a better order now than it has been for some 28 years, but it is just the man to keep it so. I would have sent home to get some clothes had I not been in hopes of being there myself before the time, but I now think that I can manage for the present. Sidney Beck very kindly gave me a couple of shirts at a time when I could not procure any for one or money, and Herrick who was our gunner in the Wyoming sent me 2 more. Billy Foreman also gave me some little things for all of which I feel very much obliged. I have not yet made out a new allotment of if Bob is coming home at the end of his 3 years it will not be worthwhile to Hale any how wait until then for.
you & I but does not come home soon I will of course make out another. We have all been more or less sick but are now nearly well having recovered from the effects of the fever caught in the swamps at Pickering. This is a very pleasant place there always being a fine breeze blowing. The Navy Yard here is entirely desolated and nearly all the citizens have left the town.

Aug 26th

Off Pilot town

We have just arrived from Pensacola and the Rhode Island is expected every minute so I have not time to say much. Please let me know how much you have drawn on my allotment, & I will send another accordingly. Love to Fancy & Pauca also to Aunt
I & family. etc.

You are too

Mr. B. Corwin

[Signature]
Dear Mother,

I will try to settle your complaints (which I admit are very just) by writing you a few lines. We have been down in the Sound about two months, fishing the coast along between New Orleans and Mobile. Our head quarters or rendezvous being here at Ship Island. Our visits to the main land are very much circumscribed by the fact that the country is infested with guerrillas and so in a great many places the boat cannot get within gunshot of shore. It is not very safe to land in small parties. We have gone fishing and hunting on the Keys or Sand Islands on the lower side of the island now and then manage to find a first-rate meal. The fishing is very good and I can at any time feel certain of getting fish enough for a meal in a half hour among the islands on the north shore. We find any quantity of oysters of a very superior quality, and I believe I have now mentioned all the attractions of our situation. We have had no hard work since coming here. We gave two evenings a warming up once a day at Grant's Pass a narrow channel between Mobile bay and the Mississippi sound and I believe drove them out of their offices. We generally keep one of their small boats about the place but as the channel has been blocked so there is very little chance of a collision between us. We pick up detached men a day and one day we got one of their boats with 13 men in it.

Chances for prize money appear to be very slim. About 4 weeks ago we ran the Rebel steamer into...
Passagena where she was burned — She had a very valuable cargo on board. She ran aground — The Emma — a very valuable vessel — was burned next — The Alabama and another Blockade Runner were 60 miles from where we were — Our boat is in a very badstate. Worse if anything than before she was fired — New Orleans the contractors there are not having justice. The day before we left New Orleans we wrote the Secretary in the Custom House, but did not say much to him as he had a lady with him — he took a first rate boat — one in a hurry and a very good one. It must be a hard fate for his brother sister. I am sorry to hear Uncle Ed ill — it came at a very unfortunate time for him. If he returns soon he may get a better command. Vary sickly — very serious he certainly has not any predilection to consumption it about belong in the family. I feel quite worried about him — I am glad Bob has got something to do and hope he will find something better in the way of government. He has a long $3,000 in hand is very well but will not go far in Washington. Remember me to Uncle Chad — make sure he or Bob might get me ordered home between now and next spring. If I had received a letter from Uncle C when forwarded left I could have got my promotion without any trouble but with old Bleeke there is very little chance I think. Have done the duty long enough & seen service enough to entitle me to it — Give my love to father. — Bob, Colonel & I also to aunt S, little fifty En and the rest & believe me your affectionately, 
F B Lowell

J.S. Please send me some of your cards or write.
Post Long 18-10
Dear Mother,

Here we are and will go to sea tomorrow morning at daylight. We will go to Vera Cruz and Key West Direct.

Your letters to Havana + enclose them in another envelope care of the consul at Vera Cruz, so that in case we are not there he will take off the outer envelope + send them to Havana.

Aunt & Charley were on board day before yesterday + Aunt I was very much pleased with the ship. Tell her that I wrote to have you to see her last night, but found out that she had
gone home. The cannon became just off as I was not going all the way & I have replied. I do not wish to have you sail with us at a later time, as we will have no communication with the shore at Vera Cruz. Give love to Julia & Pass tell Jane that I shall write to Julia to-night. Show that Dr. B. is back in R. B. I hope that he has some friends. Remember me to Anne & Uncle C. & write to me.

Your affectionate

[Signature]