

14 Jul 1864

Stringtown, Spencer Co.
Indiana, July 14th 1864.

Capt. W. B. Chapman.

Dear Sir,

after such a protracted silence
you may imagine with what
pleasure I welcomed yours of
May 27th. Am thankful to know
that you are no longer in
Texas, and hope that you will
have such nice times as will
more than repay for past
hardships. I am very that you
omitted telling me of your
health; for since I learned
of your bad condition
I have felt very uneasy about
you. It appears that you are
too stricken to resign under

any circumstance and I
imagine that the army is a
good place to regain lost
health. I think it bad enough
for you to stay in the army
under the most cheering auspices.
Do not risk too much.

There does not appear to be
much prospect of the war
closing soon for our armies are
not, at present, succeeding so
well as one could wish.

Sherman's defeat on the 24th is
is not very encouraging, and
Genl Grant does not need ^{the success which} with
has been generally anticipated.
My brother who is in Gen Grant's
army writes that they are
fighting daily and that the
rebels for the last two weeks
have been whipping in almost
every engagement. This looks
discouraging enough; though I

am sanguine enough to fancy
that these dark clouds herald
brighter days.

I came home just before
the 4th and you may imagine
what a gay old time we had
as almost every one has gone
to war - even Stuart has gone into
the three month service, I have
not seen Mr. Byrnes or any of them
Mr. Reid is keeping Bachelor's Hall -
except to him. Now I don't know
what the mischief I have done
but I do know that he looks
grim defiance at me and
refuses to speak. Repost says
that he is going to be married
soon and I have thought
that probably to that fact his
tragic bearing may be attributable.
Please write soon, Hoping
to have the pleasure of seeing
you at our very distant day
I remain ever yours, Mollie.



Capt. W. H. Peckensinger,
49th Reg. Inf. Co.
New Orleans,
La.