Galveston Sept 7th 1864

Gov. Thos. H. Hubbard

My dear Father,

I now take this opportunity of writing and sending the letter by tomorrow's mail. I went up to Houston on the 3rd and returned on the 5th inst. I had scarcely left the cars on my return when my comrades told me I had just got back in time to leave with the Regt, which was ordered off on account of the yellow fever, which is said by some to be [illegible] here; but I, thinking that there was not as much danger as they apprehended, went to the commanding officer of the regt and gained his consent to stay & do Provost duty. My reasons for this course are, that I think that one will be just as liable to take the disease at camp, which is only four miles off as in the city, besides all the Surgeons will have

to be brought from this post, and if a person happens to be sick in Camp he will be almost sure to die for want of nurses, which I understand are more necessary to the cure of the fever than even medicine. It was true I have a good many friends who have been accustomed all their lives to the epidemic, and who will certainly, if I should chance to get ill, take the greatest care of me; and I think it better that if I am to have a visit from the fever it had better come at once when I am young and able to bear it. There is no certainty however that the 'Yellow Fever' Yellow Fever is true; there is a great diversity of opinion in regard to the matter. Dr. Holland says positively that there is not. Col. Smith shakes his head and will not express an opinion, but says Holland is a man of no principle, and would say

that the people left this morning there will be no one to cause any fitch in a little while.

Give my love to James and tell him I am daily expecting a letter from him in answer to the one I wrote ~~to him~~ the other day. I would like to hear from home oftener, I do not get a letter on an average once a month and am totally ignorant of what is going on. I could write a great deal oftener, but as I have no news, my letters of course would be scarcely worth reading therefore I think it is better to wait until I have something to write about.

Hoping to hear from you soon in regard to matters in general, and especially your advice

I am Your Affecte Son
Dudley H. Ward
Co. G. 2° Regt. Tex. Vol. Infty. Galveston.

P.S. Please send me if convenient a small remittance, and do not think me importunate. Dudley

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I paid my washing bill etc, etc there was very little left I assure you, for such stuff goes a very ~~little~~ way ~~[illegible]~~ at the rate of forty for one. And yet the figures look so large when you have it, that one dreams he is rich until he go ito invest it, when he finds that he has nothing in return.

I should like to have a few dollars in Specie, so that in case I should be sick or anything happen, I would have something to depend upon. You raised my hopes to an immense pitch when you sent me that order, but they alas were doomed to perish!

Galveston is a paradise in comparison to Houston in regard to cleanliness and it is my opinion that no epidemic can prevail with any very great power while such continues to be the case, and at the rate

no wolf when in reality the wolf was devouring the sheep. Most of the most citizens say, however, that they think that the epidemic is not among us. It suits me to believe I do not know but will write and tell you with certainty in a few days, as soon as the truth can be known, for I am going to stay and see the "elephant"

I have another reason for not wishing to quit the city - viz. that I have a good room all to myself, as well furnished as is necessary for the comfort of a soldier, and that I am boarding at a good place, where I do as well as could possibly be expected, under the circumstances.

All the prisoners are removed from this place and the troops also, except a few acclimated men and some who are not to be frightened by a big bear. These latter are to do the

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[illegible] Provost duty, and I am included among them. I hope this will find you enjoying good health and that of our family are entirely well as that you will be able to write me a good long letter of advice etc in answer to this.

I owed that fellow Wynn, the jail bird of whom we bought that pistol when I started to Miss. the other day he is on his way to Brownsville Texas on the Rio Grande, he has been elected a lieutenant in that Regt. Of such material is a great part of the Confederate Army officered, and under such men I am obliged to serve. It makes me feel mean to think about it.

I suppose Denis Keil wrote to you about that draft which you sent to me. I got one hundred dollars from him the other day, in Confederate Currency, but by the time