



Richard C. Hulse,
Co. F, 5th New York
Heavy Artillery

Chicago Sunday 28th 1862

Dear Father & Mother

having arrived at a stopping place now and this being my only chance as I am cook for the company I guess you have heard of the news at harpers ferry. I am glad to state I was in the thickest of the fight and got through safe and sound if I had time I would write a little about it but we are busy we do not know the next minute we have to move or where we have to go I think we will fight with the indians or come home to newyork we are in camp douglafs and a very nasty place at that our company is all the growling about the sleeping and eating we went five days without any thing to eat but a cracker a day

I write this so as to let you know where I am. I am getting along very well I may write a nother letter soon

So you need not answer this till you here from me again
So I remain Yours
Your Son Dick

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I send my love to you all and all the folks at yorkville Tell uncle John as soon as I get settle if I ever do I will write to him I had to leave harpers ferry with out any clothes except whats on my back when I wash I pull off my shirt and put on my coat and thats the way I get along I send my love to Joe Albert and Sarah - well it is almost time to get supper ready so I will have to close
So good bye all
till you hear from me again

Dick

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Chicago [Illinois]

Sunday, [September] 28, 1862

Dear Father & Mother,

Having arrived at a stopping place now and this being my only chance as I am cooking for the company. I guess you have heard of the news at Harper's Ferry. I am glad to state I was in the thickest of the fight and got through safe and sound. If I had time, I would write a little about it but we are busy. We do not know the next minute [when] we have to move or where we have to go. I think we will fight with the Indians or come home to New York. We are in Camp Douglas and a very nasty place at that. Our company is all the growling about the sleeping and eating. We went five days without anything to eat but a cracker a day.

I write this to let you know where I am. I am getting along very well. I may write another letter soon so you need not answer this till you hear from me again. So I remain yours. Your son, — Dick

I send my love to you all and all the folks at Yorkville. Tell Uncle John as soon as I get settled, if I ever do, I will write to him. I had to leave Harper's Ferry without any clothes except what's on my back. When I wash, I pull off my shirt and put on my coat and that's the way I get along. I send my love to Joe, Albert, and Sarah. Well, it is almost time to get supper ready so I will have to close.

So goodbye all till you hear from me again. — Dick

Bio of Richard C. Hulse

Born 1843 the son of Joseph C. Hulse (1818-1893) and Elizabeth Todd (1819-Aft 1880) of New York City. Prior to the Civil War, Richard's father was a furniture merchant in the city. After the war, he kept a billiard saloon in Morrisania, New York. Richard was a member of the Yorkville (upper east side of Manhattan) Fire Department, Truck No. 10, before joining the service. When Richard was 19 years old, he enlisted on 4 August 1862, at New York city as a private in Co. F, 5th New York Heavy Artillery to serve three years. At the time of his enlistment, Dick was described as a "machinist" who stood just shy of 5 and a half feet tall, with brown hair and brown eyes. he was captured and paroled by Stonewall Jackson's men at Harper's Ferry on 15 September 1862. 19 October 1864 near Bowman's Ford a surprise attack by troops under Confederate General William H. Payne. Following a stint in prison, Dick was reported as having taken the Oath of Allegiance to the Confederacy and joined the rebel army as a "Galvanized Confederate" at Salisbury, North Carolina, in December 1864.