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Head. Quarters, 156th Regiment N. Y. Vo
2d Brigd 1st Div 19. army Corps.
Baton Rouge (La), Decr 12th 1863.

Friend Williams,

You may think it very strange for me to write to you, as I never have written, but it was not that I never thought of you. I have thought, a great many times, that I would write, but there was always something in the way. and now I will endeavor to pen a few lines in my awkward manner.
Well, I have not heard from you since I saw you to the Picnic in the woods. but I suppose you have heard of us. So there is no use of my telling you where we have been, or what we have been doing. for it would be me writing, and you reading, but I will tell you where we was one year ago. day before yesterday, we was a wreck on the wide Ocean. neare the Florida Shore. about (80) miles from Key west, and we have been a great many other places since, and God knows where we will be the next, 10th of December. but I hope the

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war. will be ended. and I will be home. =
we have good news. from the army. of. Tennessee.
and expect great news from. the Potomac. Sars.
General. Grant. is the man. of this war. he was the man
at Vicksburgh. and Lookout Mountains, and I think
he will be the man. for Richmond yet. unless there
is something done there this winter. which I hope there will
There has been many changes in this regiment. Since
we left. Old Ulster. Some have gone home. Some on
furlows. and Some discharged. and are dead. and one.
that was dear. and Dear to me. is in his grave. (that
was. George. Fowler.) and all through the negligence of.
Doctors. if we had. better. Surgeons. in the armys, there would
not be as many. deaths as there is. =
There was rather a Sad instance. occured here Saturday
of last week. of the 88th Mass. - Mess. was on Provost Duty.
and arested. one of our Mess. and was about putting
him in Jail. and the later. Started runs, and the 88th
fellow. bid him halt - and fired. killing him instantly.
he was a member. of Company E. 156th Regiment, and
had many Friends in his Company, he has a Bro. in the
Same. Company. that regrets his losse. very much. and
has the Sympathys of many. of our Regiment.

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The health of the Plattekill Boys is very good as far as I know. David is well and wished to be remembered to you. he is orderly at Brigade head quarters. he has very good times. Theodore is well and is out on picket today. (and it is raining, so it makes it very unpleasent.) That is something. I have not done in some time, I was detailed in the quarter masters department last January. and still remains in the same. = I have enjoyed very good health since I have been in the army. I was sick about two months, but I kept out of the hospitall. and now I am well and feel very well contented. I should like to go home and see the folks once in a while. but other wise, I cant complain. as I am very well situated. (for a privet soldier.)

Give my Respects to your Father and Mother. and all the Girls. Remember me to enquiring Friends. (if I have any;) I hope to receive a answer from you soon. as it is convenient. and I mean to write to you oftener. if you are agreed. Write soon. and I remain your Friend and well wishes

Ledoe. G. Rhodes
Co. A. 156th Regt. N.Y.Vol.
Baton Rouge, La.
adress the same.

Williams. Henry. Terwilliger.
(Milton. Ulster. County New York.)

excuse all misstakes and bad penmanship.

N Y Vol B