instead of that the regiment are kept here about
1/3 full, made to use arms that are not fit to fire
at dogs with, and commanded by old men who
are almost in their dotage, who are afraid to take as
much responsibility as a Lieutenant would presume
to take — On joining my Company at Fort Halleck
60 miles from the habitable part of Country, I found it
building quarters of pine logs, cond. by a 1st Lieut.
and no Surgeon at the Post, it continued healthy
untill about the 10th May when the sickness commen-
ced, on the 25th I was left in command of the Co. &
Post, with 20 men on the sick report, about the
30th I had not a man for duty and was left for
11 days without posting a sentinel night or day,
never did I see a more distressing scene with 45
men on their backs with fever, eight at the point
of death without a dose of medicine, or any
fresh provisions, and knowing that a Surgeon
could not be had, frequent applications had been
made for a Surgeon, but no notice taken of them
I applied after being placed in command to the
Col. for a Surgeon, or to to remove my company
to a more healthy situation which was not
granted untill he got permission from
the Dept. Comdg. the Army of the South, on the
13th Sept. I received orders to move to this Post via
St. Marts after losing one Brass I also lost one
(died) on the road [illegible] 11 days and this

place at which I arrived on the 17th Inst.

We have now four Companies encamped here
living in tents on a high hill, in the most healthy
settled neighbourhood & the best society at any other
season of the year than this in the Territory, when
we can get better chickens eggs & milk and such
things which is a great treat to a man who has
been living on salt meat for 3 months, we have very
wet weather rain every day for the last month
which makes it disagreeable in tents, the 4 Cos
will muster 120 men, & but 31 of them are
for duty, my Company which I am comdg. has
30 men in it and 7 for duty, the strength of an
Infantry Co. is 98 men, Co. I. has 17 men, the whole
regiment has but 350 men in Quarters allowing
4 but 80 men for duty, so you see the situation
of our regiment, the situations now occupied
are very healthy and our men are convalescing
slowly, we were ordered to E. Florida but the regi-
ment is unable to move, I presume we will remain
in Texas —

I am much indebted for the papers, the print
of the times afforded me some reading I received
Mothers letter of May 22d which I have been in
tending to answer, but I have been so busy fit-
ting out Quarterly papers of my Company that
I have not had time it always one great pleasure
to see that I am not forgotten or thought of at home