

Hampton Hospital Va. July 26 63

Dear Mother [Emily Holt]

I take my pen in  
hand this butiful Sabath day  
to write you afew lines to let  
you know how we get along  
we are doing well I am gaining sten  
-gth very fast Byron [Private Byron Holt, Square's older brother] is getting  
quite tuff again I received a  
letter from Harriet [Harriet Holt, Square's younger sister] stating  
that you was quite poorly I  
was very sorry to hear such  
news I hope the next time that  
I hear from home that you  
will be better Ma you must  
not worry about us we are doing  
well & are together we can help  
one another but we are both able  
to take care of our selves now  
we had 7 new patients come

into our Ward last night  
from Yorktown [Yorktown, Virginia] amongst them  
x (scratched out) was Thomas Clements [Private Thomas J. Clements] he is  
here now with James & George [Private James M. Clements & Private George W. Clements]  
Thomas loocks quite slim  
there was about 75 came into  
this Hospital last night from  
Yorktown we have got agood  
place here we are so close to the  
water that we get agood cool  
breeze most all the time  
tell Harriet that I got her letter  
dated the 28<sup>th</sup> of June yesterday  
tell Hannah [Hannah J. Holt, Square's wife] that I got two from  
her one June 24<sup>th</sup> the other the  
30<sup>th</sup> they had all been to the  
regiment x (scratched out) dr Raymond [Assistant Surgeon Mahlon H. Raymond] is  
getting better he is at Yorktown  
yet he has been verry low  
they didnt think he would live  
I must lay this aside for dinner  
well we have been to dinner I will  
tell you what we had we new

potatos & gravy boild beef  
fresh bread squash & a good  
plate full of bead [bread] pudding

dinner is the best meal we get  
but the living is verry good  
well Ma it is rather hard to  
to be separated from friends &  
home that are so near & dear to  
to us I hope & trust the time  
will soon come when we can  
be restord friends & homes  
again we must all keep up good  
courage & I guess we will come  
home all right after alittle  
our Reg[iment] is in Ny yet I feel  
quite anxious to be with them  
there they have had a donation of  
one hundred dollars besides agooded  
of provision since they have been  
there tell John [John Holt, Square's younger brother] he kaint got corn  
that will come up with the corn  
here we can get all kinds of  
gaden sauce here now such as

potatoes cabage beets cowcubmers  
& all such  
Monday morning the 27<sup>th</sup>  
well how do you all do this  
morning we are all right this  
morn or as near so as can be expected  
here. there was ayounng man  
died in this Ward last night  
he is the one that was so  
sick when I wrote about that  
other one dying it is a verry  
butiful morning we are all doing  
well except James Clements he  
seemes to grow poor all the  
time I don't think of much more  
this time I & send my best wishes  
to you all Hatt [Hattie Hopkins, Square's sister-in-law] you & John  
musst write often as you can

from your affectionate  
Son Square. Holt