

Fort Richmond S I NY Harbor [Stanton Island, New York Harbor]

Oct 1st 1863

Remembered Brother [John Holt, Square's younger brother]

I seat myself this
morning to pen you a few
lines to let you know how
we get along well John I can
take care of about as much rations
as the next one Byron [Private Byron Holt, Square's older brother] I think
rather better than when we
came here we done quite alarge
washing this morning Sergent
Mesenger [Sergeant (later 1st Lieutenant) Albert W. Mesenger] has got here with us
again he came yesterday he
has been home he left home Monday
well John I wish you had been
here yesterday when we fired our
little 15 inch Columbia gun [A Columbiad 15inch Smoothbore cannon] you
would thought would thou (scratched out)
that fourth of July was not
far about the ball weighed & 80 lbs.

the first one they fired it
dismounted it then they tride
another 5 shots that was all right
I guess Byron & I will have to send
home another box of cloths we have
got more than we know what
to do with I have got two good
two good blankets & quite agood pair of pants
more than I have got use for
Co B had abox come yesterday from
Alexandria [Alexandria, Virginia] one that we left there
last spring, I bought ablanket the
other day for 25 cts worth \$2.50 that
I shall send home By has quite a lot
to send to we are having verry
pleasant weather now aday
John I would like to change work with you
aspell you come & work for me
aspell & let me work for you
I was on ordinance duty yesterday
we was remounting one of our little
guns that weighs 50,080 lbs [580 lbs., an 8 inch Smoothbore] a nice

little thing to handle
you must get your falls work
done & come down here & stay aspell
with us if we stay here I am coming
home if I can get afurlough

but I cant tell when that will
be I haven't much news to write
wait till I come home & I can
tell it better than I can write it
I think you will have your
match to read this
no more at present
write often
I send my best wishes
to you and all yours truly

Square Holt
Co B 26" Mich Inft
NY City

afternoon no mail to day
well John I have just been
afishing I caught one pretty
nice one I cooked it & Byron
drit I eat it we don't have
to go far to fish the Fort is
close to the water the boys
catch quite a good many good bye
S Holt