

Corps, in his report. Some of the officers in scouting had found a gun carriage, partly destroyed. It probably belonged to the Battery, five guns of which were captured at Brinton, by Gen Warren, on our retreat from Culpepper.

They brought it into camp and have mounted a Quaker Parrot gun on it, so that it gives our camp quite a formidable look. I saw it on the hill as I was coming along in the train and marvelled within myself when it could have come from. The mystery was soon explained when I got into camp. — I found the officers all well and everything moving along quite satisfactorily. We expect to remain where we are until work begins again in the Spring.

I had a much pleasanter trip than I anticipated, but I was pretty blue I assure you. If you had been with me, you might possibly have

coaxed me into resigning, only I should not have been blue if you had been with me. If I could see any certain way of making money enough to keep the pot boiling, I believe I could be induced to give up soldiering even before the war is over, and, moreover, I will say for your satisfaction that I mean to look around and see what can be done. Several notions came into my head while the blue fit was on me; perhaps I may be able to make something out of one of them. In the mean time means the word and you are not to mention this to any body. — While I was writing the band of the 12th struck up, much to my surprise & since we have been making a sight of it. Sergeant had just received a barrel of ale & a barrel of good things for left

It occurred to me this morning before I got
up that perhaps a want of proper ventila-
tion had something to do with the Children's
Health. There are fires of you, a fire & a light in the
room all night & much of the day time. If you
can do no better, you might open your doors &
windows ~~and~~ several times during the day & just
before the Children go to bed & before you go your-
self. You will soon begin to use the little window
which ^{will} give a better chance to get fresh air

I've a great mind to keep this letter till
Monday as if I send it To-day it will
catch up with the one I sent yesterday.
There is not as much satisfaction in getting
two letters from the same person, as one
given, because you are always provoked
that one should have been delayed till
the other overtook it.