

Fort Columbus

Sept. 11th 1861.

Dear Sir-

I am in receipt of your favour of the 10th inst. I came from Beattus without a change of clothing but my wants have been supplied by the voluntary kindness of friends in your city. My family, whom I left well & cheerful four weeks since, are provided for in any emergency, & have no doubt before this time heard of my "Safety". I wrote to them by Commodore Stringham, who kindly offered to pass our letters under a flag of truce from Old Point Comfort to Norfolk.

The sentiment which prompts your congratulations upon my personal safety, can meet with no response in my bosom. My wife & children would scorn such an idea. Safe as I am, they would prefer to see me, where I would prefer to be, in another "Fort Beattus" with guns that would reach, or on the tented battle field. I can make allowances for your rejoicing at my captivity, living as you do under the shadow of Fort Lafayette!

My very best regards to Mrs Blackwell and the young ladies. She would like to know

of me. "How much fun" there is in war?
I would like to have permission to gratify
her curiosity. We whose homes are invaded
and desolated, do not regard it as a very amusing
matter. But I must forbear.

Please say to Charles Blossom, that
the W^m H. Harvey, whose name he saw in
the papers, is a private in my company
from the country near Washington, and
not the man he thought it was.

Very Respectfully
Yours

Mr R. M. Blackwell
144 Front St.
N. York

L. S. Garrison