Letters of Daniel R. Anthony, 1857-1862—
Concluded
Edited by Edgar Langsdorf and R. W. Richmond
Part Four, June 20-September 14, 1862

Introduction

LITTLE more than three months after the Seventh Kansas arrived in the South D. R. Anthony’s connection with it came to an end. He was strongly opposed to the official policy which limited the objective of the war to the preservation of the Union. This policy was interpreted by men like Anthony as in effect protecting slave property. He was further embittered at being passed over for promotion to the colonelcy of the regiment and for these reasons submitted his resignation from the military service.

Anthony’s tempestuous personality is nowhere better displayed than in the incident of his brigade general order number 26. Issued on June 18, 1862, while he was commanding in the temporary absence of Brig. Gen. Robert B. Mitchell, the order read as follows:

Head Qrs Advance Column, 1st Brigade
1st Division Central Army of the Miss
Camp Etheridge, Tenn., June 18th, 1862

General Orders
No. 26

I. The impudence and impertinence of the open and avowed Rebels, traitors, secessionists and Southern Rights men of this section of the State of Tennessee in arrogantly demanding the right to search our camp for their fugitive slaves has become a nuisance and will no longer be tolerated. Officers will see that this class of men who visit our camp for this purpose are excluded from our lines.

II. Should any such parties be found within the lines, they will be arrested and sent to Hd. Qrs.

III. Any officer or soldier of this command who shall arrest and deliver to his master a fugitive slave shall be summarily and severely punished according to the laws relative to such crimes.

IV. The strong Union sentiment in this section is most gratifying and all officers and soldiers in their intercourse with the loyal and those favorably dis-

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posed are requested to act in their usual kind and courteous manner and protect them to the fullest extent.

By Order of
LT. COL. D. R. ANTHONY 7th K. V.¹
Command’g

W. W. H. LAWRENCE
Capt. & A. A. G.

This was in direct violation of General Orders No. 16, issued on the same date by Brig. Gen. I. F. Quinby, commanding the District of the Mississippi, and was also interpreted as being in violation of an earlier order of Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck, General Orders No. 3, Headquarters, Department of the Missouri, St. Louis, November 20, 1861. Anthony presumably was aware of Quinby’s order at the time he released his own, and certainly was familiar with Halleck’s. The pertinent section of the latter was the first paragraph:

It has been represented that important information respecting the numbers and condition of our forces is conveyed to the enemy by means of fugitive slaves who are admitted within our lines. In order to remedy this evil, it is directed that no such persons be hereafter permitted to enter the lines of any camp or of any forces on the march, and that any now within such lines be immediately excluded therefrom.²

Quinby’s directive prohibited the admission of any colored person within the lines of any post or encampment of this District who are not free—or who by the acts or consent of their masters have not become clearly contraband. . . . All commandants of Brigades Regiments, detachments & companies are called upon to see that this order is rigidly enforced, and all persons who permit or countenance a violation of it shall if a commissioned officer be reported for mustering out of the service and if an enlisted man be tried and punished by a court martial.³

According to subsequent accounts, when he returned to duty and learned of Anthony’s attempt to protect fugitive slaves General Mitchell became angry and excited. However, knowing that public sentiment supported Anthony, he did not want to countermand the order himself. Instead he directed Anthony to do so. The following conversation was then said to have taken place:

Anthony: As a subordinate officer it is my duty to obey your orders, but you will remember, General, that “Order No. 26” is a brigade order; and I am not now in command of the brigade. Of course you are aware the lieutenant-colonel of a regiment cannot countermand a brigade order?

Mitchell: Oh, that need not stand in the way, Colonel Anthony. I can put you in command long enough for that.

¹ From a manuscript in Anthony’s hand, dated Humboldt, Tenn., June 30, 1862, included among the Anthony papers in the State Historical Society. It was printed in full in the Rochester (N. Y.) Evening Express, July 11, 1862.
³ Anthony Mss., loc. cit.
Anthony: Do you put me in command of the brigade?
Mitchell: Yes, sir.
Anthony: You say, General Mitchell, I am now the commanding officer of this brigade?
Mitchell: Yes, sir; you are in command.
Anthony: Then, sir, as commanding officer of the brigade I am not subject to your orders; and as to your request that "Order No. 26" be countermanded, I respectfully decline to grant it. "Brigade order No. 26" shall not be countermanded while I remain in command! 4

Shortly thereafter Mitchell placed Anthony under arrest and preferred charges against him. The first charge, disobedience of orders, contained five specifications; the second, conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, contained four. No court martial was ever held, however, and Anthony was soon returned to duty. From that time on, both because of this incident and the fact that Major Lee was promoted over him, he lost interest in the regiment, and as the letters indicate submitted his resignation. He was released from service September 3, 1862, and returned to Leavenworth to resume his civilian pursuits.

THE LETTERS

HEADQUARTERS 7th Regt Kan Vol
CAMP "ETHERIDGE"
WAKLY CO NEAR DRESDEN
JUNE 20th 1862

DEAR SISTER

Here we are in the Land of Dixie with the most God forsaken community I ever saw—

For two days I was in command of the Brigade consisting of the 7th Kan Vol Cavalry 8th Kansas Vol Infantry, 2nd Kan Battery 8th Wisconsin Battery—6 guns each—and I took occasion to issue an order prohibiting Rebels from hunting our camp for Slaves.

Genl Quinby is in command of this district and had just ordered us to return to Mr Sims 8 negroes or rather to turn the negroes out [of] our lines—the same thing.— 5 I also issued an order prohibiting any officer or soldier from arresting and delivering a Fugitive Slave to his master. This in the Army of Genl Halleck seems strange to

5. Brig. Gen. I. F. Quinby, commanding the District of the Mississippi, issued this order in the form of a letter dated June 15 and addressed to Brig. Gen. B. B. Mitchell, commanding the 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Central Army of the Mississippi. It read as follows: "General Mr A. G. Sims who lives near Clinton Hickman Co Ky reported to me that there are now within your lines eight of his colored servants who were taken from him by some portion of your command in passing his house— These persons must be placed without your lines and the parties that brought them in or allowed them to pass in punished. This disregard of positive orders from the Hqqs of the Dept of the Miss and from the Hqqs of this Dist cannot be permitted— If there is within this district a Regiment or Detachment in which the sentiment is such that these orders and instructions cannot be enforced without riot and mutiny, such regiment or detachment will be reported for mustering out of the service."—Anthony Ms., loc. cit.
Officers & soldiers and many are waiting for orders from ranking officers countermanding mine—
    I doubt whether any such action will take place—
Most of our B. G.s & M. Gs are of the old conservative school—but the Regimental, Company & other officers are true and will stand by me—
    It was most fortunate that this opportunity occured—And you will see the importance and strength of the order when I say to you that the order was made by my order by W W H. Lawrence Capt & Asst Adj't Genl—
    When the order was read our boys yelled— Both Batteries and the 5th Kansas did also—
Genl Quinby has ordered us to be reported for mustering out—our boys all say if we are to catch Negroes—muster us out—
    I have to take the lead—but I have the 20nd Kan & 8th Wis Battery the 1st 7th & 8th Kan the 20nd Illiniois and the 12th 13th & 15th Wisconsin volunteers to back me— The Col of the 13th excepted—so you see I have little or nothing to fear in fighting Brigaders—
    Merritt is at Trenton 20 miles south with 3 cos our regiment & 6 cos Ill cavalry—
We expect to go south on the 23rd
    The people here are largely Union
Have had no papers since the 13th 7 days without news—
The ladies here all “dip” that is they broom up the end of a small stick 2 inches long and ½ inch in diameter by chewing one end in their mouth—and then take it out and rub it in a box of Snuff and the broom end filled with snuff in their mouth to suck and pass the Snuff to the next one— the same box goes round—
    The best of them they say do this secretly—

D R Anthony

“Tishomingo” Hotel
Corinth Miss July 8 1862

Dear Father
I arrived here on Sunday the 6th from Columbus Ky. 145 miles by the Mobile & Ohio Rail Road with orders to report to Genl Halleck in arrest. What they will make out of the “niggers” I dont know. I think the matter will be kept under advisement for a time, and then I will be discharged I have demanded an immediate trial as all the witnesses against me are now here. The most that can be done will be a court martial—and cashiered—in that case I
shall go to Washington for redress and will get it too— They well know their weakness They know the whole country would side with me and do not care to bring the issue before the country to prominently—

I shall let the matter rest a week or so and then if nothing is done I shall bring the whole matter to the attention of our Senators Prest Lincoln & Secy Stanton for redress—

The Regiment will be here to day they come by marches with all the transportation The Infantry coming by Rail— Have not seen or heard from Merritt since the 1st at Humboldt Tenn— He was then well and continues to enjoy the life of a soldier— And the company likes him also—

The main points at issue with Genls Halleck—Quinby & Mitchell and myself are—

1st I issued Brigade Genl orders No 26 which they interpret in direct contradiction to Genl Hallecks order No 3 and Quinby's order No 16—

2ond In Quinby's General orders No 16 it say[s] if "any one permits or countenances a violation of it they shall if a commissioned officer be reported for mustering out of the service"— I reported to Genl Mitchell that "I had countenanced a violation of said order"— Now the question comes—Have they the power and if they have dare they muster me out for that cause— I reported myself for the purpose of being mustered out of the service, as with the present policy I do not care to remain in—

To me it seems that the presence [of] our army here is doing more to strengthen the rebel cause than to suppress it— No matter how outrageous and damming may have been the course of the rebels here—if they only take the oath they are indemnified for past & present losses of Hay oats corn and even rent for lands and Houses occupied by our troops— In one case Genl Mitchell paid a rebel $35.00 for 70 horses & mules grazing on one acre of clover— at first he said he'd be damned if he'd take the oath— but the $35.00 was to great a temptation— Another old rebel was paid $470. Our men are employed in watching rebel's onions, Green Peas & Potatoes And if a poor soldier chances to allow his appetite to wander from the Hard Bread & Side Meat so far as to appropriate a rebel onion to his Stomach— woe unto him—

The Union people stand by the road side and with pails of water quench the thirst of the weary soldier as he marches through the suffocating dust under a burning sun— and if they have an onion
it is offered gratis—but to them our soldiers insist on paying— A soldier is the most generous man in the world—he don't care for money—He hates meanness—It is not necessary to guard the Union mans house or property—No Soldier will harm him a dime—he will go hungry first—But the soldiers think that where the Government might take from Seeshe onions Beans Peas Potatoes Beets &c and give them saving 25 per cent of their lives—and they cannot see why they should suffer and die while guarding the property of their enemies—The soldiers are right—

Any amount of provisions are given to the families here in want whose sons brothers & fathers are in the Seeshe army—why is this indifference as to the health and comfort of our own men and such sensitiveness about our enemies who are shooting our men while on picket duty guarding rebel property A case of the last kind occured only a few days ago—so I was informed by Col Morton 84th Ohio—

Under all these circumstances I think the army is better off without me than with me—and I shall have no heart to work until the policy of this department changes. Four fifths of the army are of the same opinion—

Am expecting the Regmt every moment will write again—

The weather is hot, the whole country filled with transportation waggons—causing the air to be filled with dust—and the air very impure from the immense amount of filth accumulated by such immense massing of people—and using improper police regulations—

Truly D R Anthony

PRIVATE
TISHOMINGO HOTEL
CORINTH MISS July 9th 1862

DEAR FATHER

I wish you would see the Democrat and Express and request them to publish letters in the New York Tribune from their regular Corinth correspondence or any other articles from Conservative St Louis Democrat Chicago Tribune or other papers which may contain favorable notices of the cause of my arrest—

Of course they will not want to publish more than the public may wish to know—But from the fact that Rochester was my home and is your home I desire to have the matter as fully ventilated in that vicinity as is consistent. I would like to pay them for setting the type—and would like two hundred copies of each paper containing anything as to the case—
From present appearances the case may go to Washington—
They are very sensitive here in regard to the arrest and a general
desire not to meddle much with it.

Two aids of General Mitchell (of Kansas) R. B) called on me to
today we had a splendid time chatting on various subjects— No
mention was made of the arrest—(The two aids are the principal
witnesses against me) And the interview [ended] by their inviting
me to partake of Sparkling Catawba at their rooms with their “earnest” & “sincere” assurances of friendship for me—

Well every [one] evades the order here more or less— the obey-
ing of Order No 3 is in form only—but the army is opposed to it—
and wont stand it long—

Direct letters or papers to me Lt Col D R Anthony 7th Regmt
Kan Vol Mitchells Kansas Brigade in the field via Cairo Ill—

I wrote Lane and Pomeroy to day and ended by “Hopeing the
time would soon come when a rebel onion would not be considered
more sacred than the life of a Union Soldier”—

Everything seems to work well— Maj Lee has recd orders from
the War department to take command of the regiment as Col—
which I suppose settles that matter— I never had so many friends
in the regiment as now—

Truly
D R Anthony

Camp Sheridan
Jacinto Tishomingo Co Miss
July 22 - 1862

Dear Aaron

I send you two extracts from Conservative & Champion I would
like to have them copied in the Express or Democrat and have a
few copies sent me—Direct to

Leut Col D R Anthony
7th Kansas Cavalry
in the field
Granger’s Brigade
via Corinth

We are now the advance regiment— No enemy stationed nearer
than Bay Springs 18 miles S. E. Scouting parties come much
nearer— I go tomorrow with a large force to reconnoitre in that
vicinity— 50 mile[s] south there are 60,000 of the enemy— My
health has been poor is now better— Have offered my resigna-
Charles R. Jennison
(1834-1884)
From a photograph taken about 1861.

James H. Lane
(1814-1866)
As he appeared about 1855.
tion in consequence of Lee appointment as Col over me— It was refused— I hope for an appointment as Col soon— and if I had a good friend of the Gov of Ill Ind or N. Y. who would secure it, I would like it— or who would give me a letter of authority to raise a regmt—

Truly

D R Anthony

No letters from you during the past month

CAMP 2 MILES SOUTH WEST OF RIENZA  MISS  JULY 27, 1862  

DEAR FATHER

Yours of the 17th inst recd—but no papers— I wish you would cut out all notices and send me the slips in a letter— they will come safer—

In consequence of my release from arrest so unexpectedly The history of my matters will not require so much ink— However I desire such a number of any papers containing notices affecting me favorably as you may deem best— of any thing important send 100— Keep an account of the expense and I will pay it if not over $200 or $300.—

Would the papers like to have letters from here occasionally if so—send me word and I will write or get some one to write— 9 companies of our regiment leave this afternoon for Ripley 30 miles west to catch a few Secesh who are recruiting in that town— I do not go— Merritt is going—

I have lost much of the interest I had in the regiment— To see a Col over me is too much— particularly when he knows so little and has not got the confidence of the men. I never was so popular with them as now— on my return to camp after my release from arrest the Band Serenaded me and nearly this whole regiment came out and gave 3 cheers for me 3 for Jennison & 3 for Lane & Pomeroy— Lee is ignorant of the tactics & the men have not confidence in his capacity to lead—

Well I have been at work all the day and until now 11 Am did not know it was Sunday—

If I can resign honorably or get promoted to a colonelcy in another regmt all OK—but I do detest serving under a man who has

6. RIENZA, Miss., at this time was the extreme outpost of the Army of the Mississippi. The Seventh arrived there on July 23 and was assigned to the First Cavalry brigade commanded by Col. Philip H. Sheridan. It remained at this post until its evacuation on September 30.—Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Kansas, 1861-1865, Military History of Kansas Regiments . . . (Topeka, 1896), p. 93.
violated every obligation he owed me. I dont respect him as a man or as an officer or honor him either—

As to your going to Leavenworth I would like to have you go when you can consistently—say within a month—when the Peach season and hot weather is over—

This is Merritts first trip out and he is preparing for plenty to eat & has just got my holsters & Dragoon revolver—and wanted to take besides 4 rounds cartridges— I told him his sabre—his navy revolver & one round was sufficient—but thought best to let him lug the Dragoon this time to satisfy him— he is well, doing well and feeling well—

Write often & direct—

Lt Col D R Anthony
7th Regt Kansas Vol
(in the field)
Via Cairo & Corinth

HEAD QUARTERS 7TH KANSAS
CAMP NEAR RIENZA MISS
July 29th 1862

DEAR AARON

If you want a Colonel for your new Regiment one who understands the evolutions of a regiment—one who believes in fighting this war out—one who wont protect secesh Corn fields—one who wont protect traitors—one who wants to try his hand at fighting—just say to your Com [?] send me a Colonel coms and I am your man providing the officers demand me—

Reed an Express of 18th to day— looks as though it come direct from the office— All OK— Send me Democrat daily 3 Mos Direct all letters & papers

Lt Col D R Anthony
7th Kansas
20nd Brigade Grangers Cavalry Div
Via Cairo & Corinth

And 10 copies Weekly Express 3 Months— Charge the expense to my acct—and I will pay some of these days—

I now owe but one debt—the mortgage on the north ¾ of my building $2,500 due 3 years hence at 10 per cent per annum— and shall have money enough to pay that—nothing happening—within two or three months—

I dont know as I wrote you but last fall I made my will and de- posited it with G G Walker of Leavenworth so in case I get popped over that document can be found its short only five lines—
Write me about twice a week— Merritt is out on a Scout with two Regiments of Cavalry one of Infantry and one Battery of 6 guns— gone to Ripley 30 miles west expect them back to-morrow— He and I both well

D R Anthony

HEAD QUARTERS 7th KANSAS
CAMP NEAR RIENZA MISS July 30th 1862

DEAR FATHER

Our Regmt went to Ripley found a comp of 600 Secesh cavalry (3rd Alabama) but unfortunately they got news our coming and skedaddled two hours before— They were gone 42 hours and were in their saddles 36 hours of the time— Ripley is surrounded by some thousands Secesh troops and it was not deemed prudent to remain there long—

I send you five small bills such as the southerners have for small change— Confed notes & Southern Bank notes for 1s 2s 3 & 5 & upwards— No Gold in this country—

If the people of Rochester desire to see them exhibit them in Arcade or at Powers— and afterwards take care of them as I desire to keep them

Merritt was ordered out this morning at day light with his company on Picket duty south of here— Will be gone one or two days

Truly

D R Anthony

RIENZA MISS Aug 12th 1862

DEAR ALL

Your letters of the 3rd inst received here to day—

Matters Political and Military in Kansas as usual are all jumbled up— No Knowing who will come out best— Appearances indicate that Lane is ahead—

On the 8th inst I again resigned my commission as Lt Col—on acct of an insulting article that appeared in the Cincinnati Gazette Aug 4 purporting to be written at the request of Genl Rosecrans by his adjutant General Capt J. H. Odlin— I took the resignation myself as far as Genl Grants H. Q.— it was indorsed and recommended by Col Sheridan Comdg Brig—by Genl Granger Comdg Cavalry Division by Genl Rosecrans Comdg Army of Miss and by Maj Genl Grant Comdg District— It has now gone to Halleck at Washington— I hope it will now go through as I dont want to serve under Lee— he is so ignorant of Military matters and there
is so much dissatisfaction in the regiment—the men are clamorous for me to remain they dont have confidence in Lee—

Genl Rosecrans has written to the Gazette over his own signature denying that he authorized the article—but I dont care for that— I have other reasons for getting into a better place—

Merritt continues well—and my health is better— The weather hot sultry— No air stirring— hot until Midnight—and by morning you have to have a woolen blanket over you to keep warm—

I shall know by the close of the month whether my resignation is accepted—

If Father you can get away I trust you will go Leavenworth for a few months say until Jany—
Write often

D R Anthony

Rienza Miss Aug 19th 1862

Dear Mother
Your short note was recieved a few days ago—

Aaron writes me you are again troubled with the asthma, but thinks it is caused principally by your attention to the Peaches— I dont think you need work so very hard, now that all danger of your having to go to the Poor House is passed— If there is any real danger of such a catastrophe happening I pledge myself to furnish a few dimes to save you from such a sad fate—

I just come from Merritt's tent, found him sound asleep along side of his 1st Lieutenant A. M. Pitts— their bed is made by driving stakes in the ground and placing poles across it and on that is a Husk Mattress stolen or I would rather say Jayhawked from a Secesh— All in a tent about 8 feet square— They with their company—the finest Co in the command were out yesterday and last night on Picket duty on the main road leading south and towards the enemy— they make their Picket about four miles out and then send out squads of ten and twenty men from five to ten miles around to feel of the enemy—if enemy there be within feeling distance— they saw none last night—

Have heard nothing from my resignation yet— Trouble seems to be brewing in Kansas or on the Missouri borders— I want to be there—

Efforts have again been made but without success to get the Post Office away from me—
I am in favor more and more every day of arming the negroes—
Portion of a military map of 1865. Several towns in Tennessee and Mississippi, mentioned by Colonel Anthony, are marked by arrows.
creating Slave insurrections—taking all Secesh property and of paying Bounty money to Soldiers—
For the past two nights the weather has been so cold as to require a blanket over us— to day is cool and slight rain which is quite welcome— from 1 to 6 P. M. it is terribly hot—
My man Griff is with me— cant do without him—
Our camp here is in a very pretty grove— water scarce—
With love to you and all I am as Ever Your Son

D R Anthony

Rienza Miss Aug 31, 1862

Dear Father
Your letter of the 18th and Aarons of the 21st came yesterday I get the Express very regularly— I never get a Democrat— Have them enclosed in a separate wrapper and directed Lt Col D R Anthony—7th Kansas via Cairo & Corinth— and they will come straight—
No news from my resignation yet— have doubts of its acceptance—
We were alarmed on the 26th at 2 P. M. by the cry of "the Secesh are right on us.— I was in command of the camp at the time— I at once ordered to Chief Bugler to sound the call "To Arms" and went myself to the north side of our camp and saw some 30 Secesh driving in our picket right past our camp and firing at them— they returned the shots—It did not seem possible that they had approached our camp so closely without giving us more notice—but the Secesh evidently were closer upon our camp than they intended for they suddenly halted drew up in line facing our camp. I sent out a few men to learn who they were and report forthwith— they did so—Killing one man & taking one a prisoner with his horse—by this time they begun a quick retreat— "To Horse" was sounded— Soon my scouts returned saying 400 or 500 were drawn up in line of battle just over the hill one fourth mile from Camp— In less than three minutes our boys had saddled and we were after them— but they broke and ran— Our boys—the 2nd Iowa & 2nd Mich—Cavalry chased them some 15 miles to the Hatchie river and swamp— Capturing many guns— some prisoners & other traps—
Of course when I saw our pickets driven upon our camp without notice I had reason to think our camp was attacked by them in force— It seems however they made a blunder—
They heard we had deserted the town and only left out a picket for deception and to cover our retreat—
As it was they made a los[s] You may rest assured it wa[s a] surprise to be fired into at mid[day] when all was quiet—

To day Merritt is out in com[mand] with his Company on the main So[uth] road as picket with orders to move south some ten miles— Merritt has done well so far—and [has] had command of the advance of the advance guard twice—

It is the impression here that both the armies now here are mere shells of outposts— At any rate our army is— we have merely a chain of out posts—with no troops to back them— most of our army has gone to Chattanooga to help Buell—

This is mere surmise on my part—

We have 13,500 men in the front and very few at Corinth—

Our position is the extreme right and front and makes a point— a kind of feeler—We like to hear often—

As Ever

D R Anthony

I have been afflicted with any number of bites— and breaking out of the heat— so has nearly our whole camp—

Rienza Miss Aug 31, 1862

Mother

Would you like a description of my house— Well say you see a square tent (Wall tent with fly over it) 8 feet square— 4 feet high at the low edge—ridge 8 ft high— the stumps cut smooth with the ground— a fine nice crumb cloth for a carpet—

On the right as you enter the tent from the west is my saddle, Bridle & blanket placed on a pole resting on two crotched sticks drove in the ground— Next my trunk placed on 4 sticks drove in the ground 12 inches high to keep it dry— Next in corner is a hole in the ground 18 inches square & deep which I use for cellar to keep my fruit vegetables Wine &c in it is very cool and neat— across the east end & back end of my tent is my Cot which keeps about 15 inches from the ground—with Mattress 2 double dark blue blankets two sheets and my overcoat with large cape for a pillow— Next on the north in middle is a fine table made by driving two poles in the ground and nailing a box on the top with my Rubber water proof blanket for a table spread—in the north west corner is a small stand 18 inches high with a water pail & Basin on it and a crash towel Hung on a pin stuck in the side of the tent close by— My mirror, a small round hung up in a similar manner close by—

During this weather the front of the tent is always open and the sides raised or looped up so that air has free access in and through
the tent— I seldom let the tent sides down unless in a gale of wind or storm— Sleep with it up nights— I keep two servants who sleep in a tent close by and a mess chest under the shade of some trees near by— Maj Herrick & myself mess together My dinner to day was Ham mashed potatoes—good light cold bread—dried apple sauce—Butter Salt Pepper and Coffee with Sugar We some times have Beef Mutton Pork fresh & Salt Beef & Pork—and then we have tea— Peach stews & dumplings and sundry other dishes got up in good style— Yesterday we had Claret wine for dinner— I keep whisky and we often have good whiskey punches Lemons costing about ten cents apiece Whisky only 50 ct gallon— The whisky we have it is said will kill a “regular” in three years— On an average it kills many more than the leaden bullets— and from my observation I am inclined to think our army is in more danger from it— Next to idleness and consequent ennui and tedium it is the most fatal—

“Blies” are getting better. Take Salts Epsom three times a day— They say its good for the itch and I surely have it and so has the whole army for that matter— they call it “heat”

Merritt went yesterday with Maj Herrick and three companies to Kossuth 12 or 15 [miles] north west—where our boys had the fight on the 27th and lost 5 men Killed and 7 wounded— Heard from them this noon they will be back in the night some time—

Merritt makes a dashing officer in a fight— the boys have confidence in him— It is funny to see old men put their trust in young but they do— And they all admire boldness and prefer such a leader—

My horses I keep just south 5 rods from the tent under a bower of oak and Sassafrass limbs I have a good fine appearing black Stallion—heavy built—one of the best in our 600 horses— I want to keep him and take him to Kansas again—

Last night we had a fine shower which cooled the earth— the dust was perfectly awful before—filling the whole heavens— Similar to Sophia Street during the State Fair years ago—

To day the weather is cool and vigorous—

My tent opens on a cleared field to the South west 1500 yards to a heavy wooded low land swamp through [which] a stream ought to run but which is now filled with pools of Tadpole Water which is not over healthy for our horses The manage to do a little better but not much—

With love I am as Ever

D R Anthony
7 P. M.

Well just as I had finished writing the foregoing at 4 o clock P. M. in comes one of our pickets on the Boonville road south saying 400 mounted rebels had made their appearance within half a mile of them— "Boots and Saddles" was sounded at once by our Chief Bugler. Soon our command was in line every man with his arms and his right hand holding the reins of his horse— 2 companies of infantry were sent on each road in that direction and 2 squadrons of Cavalry to strengthen the pickets and we waiting orders in our camp— Soon down came a strong force of Cavalry from the north upon us they come charging upon us at a Gallop— It proved to be our Squadrons sent out to Kossuth yesterday under Maj Herrick (Merritt was with him) they heard at the northern picket that we were going out and come galloping in to join us— we remained saddled for two or three hours and then news came that the Secesh gone off again they only came up to look at us—and off again— So you see we are now quiet again— Merritt was out 30 hours during which time their horses were not unsaddled they saw only a picket of 6 men of the enemy— To night is dark and cloudy—looks like rain again— the day has been a magnificent one—

The little black boys are now singing and dancing in camp for amusement to our boys— during the alarm and while we were waiting orders any number of remarks and smart jokes were made— one saying there sits Brandy on a white horse— another says you begin to look natural again— Another says pull off[f] that No 7—or you will be taken for a Jayhawker"

Some ones says to Dan Williams the Blacksmith who appears mounted on his mule are you going out— “You bet I am” A few have cramps—belly ache and Biles among the latter myself— but I had my horse saddled so as to get away. Changes do occur— Susan write this day and says she begins to think we may come back alive— well I havent thought of coming back unless I was.

At any rate Maj Herrick Merritt & myself suppered together on same as our dinner except tea for coffee and all ate heartily—

D R A

HEAD QUARTERS 7TH KANSAS
RIENZA MISS Sept 20nd 1862

DEAR SISTER

Your letter of the 21st from Easton came yesterday, which we may call a day of alarms. Although your letter was not looked
upon in that light as no one read it but Merritt and I— Our
pickets were troubled very much and as late as 10 P. M. last night
in come one of them at top of his speed saying our pickets were
skirmishing— "To horse" was sounded and in less than five minutes
every man including lame halt and blind were drawn in line of
battle awaiting orders from the General or the attack—but instead
thereof came a picket informing us it was a false alarm— It seems
an old horse was prowling along towards our lines. And when
halted by our vidette refused to halt, but moved right upon our
vidette— Of course he (our man not the horse) did not know
whether the horse was friendly or not— So the horse paid the
penalty for his daring and thus ended the 20nd Alarm—

Hannah might name the female child as you or she suggest
providing it is a fool— if the child is bright just await orders and
I'll find a name for it within six months—

I dont hear anything further from my resignation— It has been
approved by all here and has now gone to Washington three weeks
since for Hallecks name I do not desire to serve in a regiment
where every thing I do will glory the name of Col Lee— A man
who lied himself into the colonelcy by the warmest professions of
friendship toward me— He has a place that belongs by right
to me— I earned it— The men want me— he knows it— and
I hate him— I look upon him as a liar a dishorable man—a
coward & poltroon and so told him to his face— but he intends to
intrigue himself through—

Of course there is nothing pleasant or agreeable in remaining
when the relations are so unpleasant— He does nothing offensive
towards me openly— he dare not do it— but he has the power
to do many things which are disagreeable to me— and with which
I can have no tangible hold on him— So I am bound to get out—
I will go into the service again in any other state than Kansas in
almost any capacity— but if in Kansas I must be a Colonel or
nothing—

My men know and appreciate my position and respect me for
taking the stand— The other day when the regmt was ordered
out to Ripley I stood in front of the line in my shirt sleeves unarmed
as they formed They asked me if I was going— I said no—
They all said we want you along— and as the Column Counter-
marshed by me they all swung their hats and hurrathed for Col
Anthony— this was mortifying to Lee— He knows full well the
sentiment among the men now—

Reports reached us yesterday that Genl Armstrong— Genl
Price’s Chief of Cavalry had a fight near Bolivar and was killed to day we hear again that he captured two of our regiments so goes the war—

Our boys are having plenty of work scouting— very hard for our horses— but our comd’g officers make no bold moves, they ought to imitate the enemy a bold dashing and prudent [?] move will win— In military movements a prudent move must necessarily be bold & dashing— If you wish to win— Our men go out this morning to fire off their Revolvers and Sharps Carbins so we will soon have noise enough—

This is a delightfull morning. Now 8½ Oclock A. M. in my tent—at the table—in my shirt sleeves—with the sides of tent looped up— so that the tent is only a shade—a cool breeze— but by noon and from that time till 5 or 6 tis hot Sometimes the heat here is great until midnight—

We remained in line last night about one hour— The men were dismounted lying down on the grass or standing & holding their horses— ready to move at a moments warning— The guns are popping and I will go and discharge my Revolver Write often

Truly
D R Anthony

ABOVE ALTON
MISSISSIPPI STEAMER
“HENRY VON PASEL”
Sunday Sept 14th 1862

DEAR AARON

On the 11th inst I receiv acceptance of my resignation by Genl Halleck— and on the 12th I left camp at Rienza—

Merritt and Capt Malone come with me to Corinth—

At 9 A M on 13th I took cars at Corinth— arrived at Columbus at 6 Oclock P. M. and then took Steamer “David Latum” arriving at Cairo same day at 10 o clock P. M.

This morning at 7 A. M. came on board this Steamer and expect sand bars permitting to be in St Louis to morrow the 15th at noon— thence to Leavenworth— I have with me my servant Griff and the Blk Stallion—

I dont think I could travel without Griff— he introduces me every where— to every body making inquiries— telling them wondrous feats & exploits performed by the Colonel— I have

7. Brig. Gen. Frank Armstrong, C.S.A., was in command of Gen. Sterling Price’s cavalry during the summer and fall of 1862 and was the leader of several successful forays against Union troops. He was not killed in action.
always found he never when on this subject fails to tell the truth—
and generally adds very largely to the truth—

He has had several down to see "Bully Boy" (my horse) showing
them his wondrous qualities. In fact "Bully Boy" is a very fair
Canadian horse—

I hated to leave the regiment and yet I could not be hired to
return for a Brigadiers pay. Although a Colonels or Brigadier
Generals rank would be a great inducement— in fact I should
then be glad to go—

Our Boys assembled impromptu I made a few parting words
Three times three went up for Col Anthony— the band played
and Col Anthony—Capt Malone & Leiut Anthony galloped off—
with an occasional "God Bless you" from the boys—

I think the boys hated to have me go— and yet all my friends
who thought how I was situated appreciated my spunk in re-
signing— and they hate Lee the more— the men have less con-
ﬁdence in him now than heretofore— He was on spree the night
before I left— and goes in for Style more than tactics discipline
and inspiring his men—

Decatur Tuscumia & Iuka are being evacuated (on the RR east
of Corinth)— Jacinto—Rienza & Danville on the south 15
miles will or are now evacuated— They are having a big scare on
in Corinth— a senseless one I think— Our Generals are afraid
to make war— they wait for the attack— The morale of the
Army of the Miss is somewhat injured by our late reverses and
want of conﬁdence in our Generals—

I go direct to Leavenworth— may and may not go east this Fall—

By the Bye I brought two more contrabands through— had to
tell all the Provost Marshals at Corinth—Columbus & Cairo they
were free— I told them so— Although I knew they had been
claimed— one in Tenn and one in Miss—

Write me at Leavenworth soon

As Ever yours
D R Anthony