

CLARK BARNES to MILTON BARNES

NOTE: Clark Barnes writes from Winchester, Va., where the 116th Ohio had arrived in March and remained till July when ordered to Maryland. Generals Kelley and Milroy are identified respectively in NOTES preceding LT. J JOHNSTON to CAPT. MILTON BARNES, February 5, 1862 and MILTON BARNES to RHODA BARNES, June 18, 1863.

May 13th 1863

Winchester, Va.

My dear brother[,]

Some time has elapsed since [sic] I last wrote to you. having received] no answer I now proceed to write you another line. I left the Hospital 12 April [and] went immediately on duty. My health has been unusually good this spring, [and I] believe I can stand a hard marching since [sic] I left the Hospital as I did before. The general health of the trupes [sic] here is very good. Our company was detailed a few days ago to guard the fortifications[.] we have a pleasant time [and] duty [is] very light. It releaves [sic] us of a great deal of hard scouting and picketing. We feel as though we were the happy family, since [sic] we left the regt and came up here - our brigade still remains here but [I] cannot tell [for] how long[.] I understand that Gen[eral] Kelley takes command of Winchester shortly but the opinion is that this brigade will remain here for some time yet. [General] Milroy goes to West Virginia. If I could have [a] choice I would prefer staying here in preference to any place I have been since [sic] I have been in the service. Our nearest neighbors are all loyal. Treat us very kindly[.] Our situation is about 2 miles north west of your old camping ground[.] Our captain is at home on furlough[.] I will hear from him when he returns[.] They were all well when I last heard. I know of no Army news moore [sic] than you know yourself[.] I believe that Gen[eral]

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Hooker has met with a brilliant [sic] success so far[.] I think that the course that he is pursuing is the only one that will cause treason to tremble and bring about a lasting peace. Your friend Lt. Col. Bushfield left the 122[nd] regt. [Ohio Volunteer Infrantry]. [He] has resigned on account of ill health.

Milt[,] let us hear from you as soon as you can.

Frank and Bent[?] are both well and hearty.

Yours in hast - [sic]

Clark Barnes

Company C 116th Regt O.V.I.

Winchester, Virginia