Very good
Mex. War

Camargo Mexico Oct 6th 1846.

My Dear Brother.

Having a little time to occupy in some way before starting on our march I thought I would occupy it in writing to you. I have a great deal that I would like to write and a very little time to write so I shall write a sort of a mixture and let you sort it out. We shall start for Monterey to morrow morning unless the order is countermanded before that time. The Ala. regiment did not have a showing in the late battle but it was not the fault of the men but of the regimental officers. Our place was on the right of Gen. Quitman's Brigade, in the place occupied by the Miss. troops but owing to the ignorance of our Col. we were left here at Camargo and the Miss. regiment went on the advance in our stead. During the battle Gen. Taylor supposing that the Alabamians were in their place, ordered Gen. Quitman to charge on a battery with them. Quitman charged with the regiment in our place took the battery gaining honors. I presume you have learned the particulars of the battle and therefore I will omit writing them. Taylor has given an armistice of 60 day to the Mexicans during which time there will be no fighting unless the Mexicans return and undertake to retake Monterey. We can now only wait with anxiety to see

what will be the effect of the Armistice. It is reported that Santa Anna is at the head of a large Mexican force marching towards Monterey and if such is the case the war will be likely to continue until the whole of Mexico is brought under subjection. If peace is not made in 60 days there will be fighting in abundance. If the American troops advance from Monterey there will be a hard fought battle between there and Saltillo at a Mountain pass which is very bad,- a few men if managed right can keep back an entire army.

The Mexicans in this vicinity are getting to be very hostile towards the troops. Not a night passes hardly but what some of the American troops are found in the chapparal with their throats cut and otherwise horribly mangled. Orders have been issued from the Gen. Commanding the forces here and are now in force "that every Mexican found with arms be treated as an outlaw and shot. One was shot by a sentinel night before last.

I have two shots fired at me by a Mexican while I was out in the chapparal at the sink. One of them a ball which struck a little tree about 4 or 5 inches from me and the other buck shot which scattered about my legs. We have had a great many alarms since I last wrote you. We have had a great deal of fun about a sentinel in the Kentucky regiments who gave an alarm a few nights since. He fired his piece and came into camp stating that he saw and

fired upon a body of Mexican horsemen. The different regiments were immediately formed into line of battle and waited for the attack. We waited ye han when a scouting party was sent out and upon examination learned that the sentinel had fired upon and shot a — not a Mexican. but a poor Jackass that was wandering about in the chaparral. he then returned to camp and went to sleep again.

I will write you as soon as we reach Monterey if I have an opportunity and I presume there will be mail conveyance there. A large mail came in Yesterday and I was very much disappointed by not getting some letters. I presume that you have written and the letters are at Point Isabel. I want you to continue to write often and I presume I shall get some of the letters. I am still of the opinion that I will be at Tamaulipas before Spring and so are the men and officers of the army but we can judge no better than you can as regards the terminus of the war. we are washing what few clothes we have got to carry to day and making other preparations for a march so I am quite busy. I would like to write much more but cannot in this letter. My health never was better. I am so fat that I can hardly see. I reckon you never saw me look so bad in your life. there are plenty of openings in the top of my hat in the seat and knees of my pants and in the toes of shoes so

air is admitted freely which I consider highly conducive to my health as long as I remain in camp when it rains the water runs in at the top of my hut and running down runs out at the toes of my shoes. The above is my every day appearance I have some Sunday-Go-to-Meetings that I wear on Parade consisting of a uniform coat and pants & a cap with a feather and a some other fixins which we received a few days since from Baltimore Our company have a fine uniform just received. My fixins are a little better than the privates as I am an Officer. they wear cotton fixins on their caps and I wear gold lace. we paid for the uniform before we left Mobile. Give my love to Rose. Willeam & Lavina Mrs Gates folks Mrs Leslie. the Steam Millfolks &c and Receive this from your affectionate Brother Charles Phelps

When you write direct as heretofore. Keep what letters come to one time & as it is from Camargo we receive letters this week once a week & sometimes twice a week. Direct as follows C C Phelps Co A 1st Regt Texas Mounted Volunteers Mexican War Ft Isabel Texas Very Interesting

C. C. Phelps
Camargo Mexico
Oct 6 1846

P3 FOREIGN

Camargo Mexico Oct 6th 1846

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