Jalapa Mexico, April 20th. 1848

Mr. A. Swartzell

Sir:

It is with great pleasure I receive a letter from any one of my friends or old acquaintances in the Polite Settlements, therefore be assured, your letter which came to hand to day, was most gladly received. I embrace the earliest leisure time to answer it. I and all the rest of Comp'y. are well and in good Spirits, and are the very Boys who are fit & able to drubb any Greaser Army that can be brought against us! Well, we can & no Mistake.!!

I presume since so much wind in the sound of words has been blowing, some of the folks are looking for some of "Los Yankies Soldados" from before long, it will it may be, but again it may not be, but I hope it may be realized as a fact. Yet I am not in the least sanguine of such being the case soon. I dream no fairy dreams of my fatherland, of its friends & comforts on that account. I have learned to call the duplicity of this people, to be called bad by such flummery any More. The armistice called the "Jucabaya Armistice" still stick in Mind! But the Treaty is formally ratified by our Government & therefore May lead to Peace!!

If our Congress rightly understood the Mexicans aright they would not slacken their energies until the Treaty is duly signed and exchanged &c &c &c

I am sorry to hear of S. Glass' health. being so much impaired of late it Makes me very anxious to return home at the very earliest season possible— In the mean time I hope his health may improve— He is one of those called worthy ——

We left the city of Mexico on the 6th Inst. last & marched to Toluca the Capital of the State of Mexico, and situated in the most delightful Valley of Toluca & about 40 Miles S.W. from the City of the Halls of the Montezumas! We again returned to this town 9 Miles higher and on the National road leading to the city of Mexico— The Valley of Toluca is one of the most beautiful & fertile in the known world! It is noted for its rich soil and salubrious air. It abounds in all kinds of delicious fruit. such as oranges lemons. Melons of every description and many others and in all season of the year —

The principal objection I have to this Country is the people. They Cant be named by the same Mouth with the Yankees! You want to know how I like the service! I have seen service that I would quit as well like to be in, but I Can't say I have much reason, arising from the service itself, to Complain. I have always been treated very kindly, had plenty to eat & drink and not overly much to do, except on a March & and in actual fighting. which don't occur often in a Campaign —

My Business at home causes me to be desirous of being there More than a desire to get out of the army—

I would not advise any of my friends to come out here merely on a pleasure excursion for its sake —

I am sorry to learn of Uncle Jas. Beatty's family moving to Iowa, and I am mistaken if they learn bettering their condition much, but of that they are to be the judges— How is E. E. Locke & Co. flourishing? I suppose the girls in general are cold & as well looking as ever, at least they should be! I saw some ½ dozen little Spanish Gals croaking at me when on Roan in sight of them— I'll bring one of them home and train her for myself!! Ayuby it's a great thing to be a soldier— just look at Reub. Hall for instance— he has not been at home any time until he gets hitched up in double harness & forgot all his hostile warfare for! for.—:

They can't catch this Child bad luck to 'em & so "no hay" Señor. Capt. Irwin seems to be gathering up Blue Birds rather more hardily than when Co. D. sprung in-tenci. Dan Hoover. Oh Crackie! but he can drink!!

How is John & what is he employed at? Tell him to write to me— Tell our folks I am well and that "poco tiempo" (by & by,) I'll come home— Give my love to all the ladies in the Whole "White Settlement"— In this reaches you we will know whether the Mexicans will ratify the treaty as returned from the U. States or not. They want 16 members to form a quorum— I must Conclude by asking you to write often & much. "Adios" mi amigo.

Yours with Respect &c

Sergt. J. Beatty Alexander
Comp'y. D. 11th. U.S. Infty,
serving in Mexico

To

A. Swartzell
Tight Ends.

Lerma Mexico April 20th 1848

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Yours with respect &c
Sergt J. Beatty Alexander
Compy D 11th U.S Infty., Army in Mexico.