Matamoras the 10th of April 1847

I take this opperbunity to write to you. I have not had time to write to you before, my health is not very good it is owing to the heat but i do my duty my humer enmuyese Greatly but i hope after being here awhile it will be better. they have taken from the Strongyist Castle in Mexico bombarded the post 4 days in Succasion with the exception of 12 hours this was allowed to bury their dead the Mexicans in this place are afraid that the Capitol will be taking away from them the City of Vera is to be to pieces the Churches which by order were saved as fast as posible were Greatly injured and on the 22st February they had a battle between San Luis potosi and Monterey Taylor Loss was 12 hundred and 4 hundred were Officers which was a Great loss to him there is some talk of our regmt going to Monterey but there is no knowing we Expect Some Mexican Calvary who is a Lurking about here there was a party of our men a hunting they went about 6 miles from the Camp and as they Came out of a thick place into

an opening they see 40 Lancers well armed and a going from them. we have taking our quarters on the Square in the centre of the town what Contains about 4 acres and is Surrounded with flat roofd buildings and there is only 6 entrences to the Square and they are Strongly Guarded with One Cannon at each one well loaded I have got a little ahead my letter in Given the outlines of my passage but there is yet room to give a story passage 27 days we Cast anchor on the 22nd march in Brasos Santiago this is a very Low barran Sandy place here we opened our tents for the first time it was here we laid our bones down in the Sand for this place is all Sand we had a very pleasant passage excepting one Gale of wind in the Gulf what lasted 36 hours and the Ship rolled very much and frightned Some very much we saw between the Islands of Domingo and Cuba and highlands of Cuba Looms up beautiful but now i will return to my travels in Mexico we left this place on the 26st after receiveing 20 days rations we Struck our tents and took up our line of march up to the other end of the Island for Brasos is one, our march was 12 miles this bring me on to the banks of the Rio Grande river we pitch our tents for the night and on the 27st we Struck our tents and crooss

over the river in a Steamboat what took us
all day to land our bayage and at 4 Oclock P M
we pitch our tents for the night and on the
24st at 5 oclock A M the Reveille was beat what
call us for to rise and Strike and at 7 oclock
we formed in and took up our line of
march after a 150 bayage wagons loaded
with provisions and after along and tedious
march of 14 miles we pitch our tents for we
was very tired and footsore, but now
i must leave my narrative and leave
it for the nects. business is here dull but the
war Speculation is good the board and rent is dear
and all the Staff officers board at the exchan
nge hotell and pay $12 Dollors per weeks and
they have a Guard of 14 men this war as far
as i have heard and seen is all a Spect you
may depend upon it for Some of the officers
that have trades have gone to work at them—
i have passed over the battle grounds and
the holes where the dead where thrown
give my Love to Lucy and to all my friends
i want you to Send me out a Box with
Some thread needle Spenden tobacco and Semises
and will Send you the mony for every
thing is dear i you to write me is Soon as you
can direct your letter to C Courtney Staff Surgeon
and as usual and it will follow on after
you must excuse my mistake yours John Richardson

Matamoras April the 10 1847

I take this oppertunity to write to you. I have not had time to write you before my health is not very good it is owing to the heat but I do my dutymy humer Greatly but i hope after being here awhile it will be better. they have takeing uliva the strongist castle in Mexico bombarded the fort 4 days in sucsasion with the exception of 12 hours this was allowed to bury there dead the Mexicans in this place are afraid that the Capitol will be taking away frome them the city of uliva is torn to pieces the church which by order were saved as far as posible was greatly injured and on the 22st february they had a battle between San Luis Potosi and Monterrey. Taylor loss was 12 hundred and 4 hundred were officers wilch was a great loss to him there is some tlak of our regment agoing to Monterrey but there is no knowing we expect some XXXXX Mexican Calvarey who is a lirking about there there was a party of our men a hunting they went about 6 miles frome the cape and as they came out of a thick place into an opening they see 40 Lancers wall armed and a going frome them. we have taking our quarters on the square in the centre of the town what contains about 4 achers and is surrounded with flat rooft buildings and there is only 6 entrence to the square and they are strongly guarded with one cannon at each one wall loaded. I have got a little ahead my letter in given the outlines of my passage but there is yet room. after a long passage 27 days wecast anchor on the 22st March in Brasos Santiago this is a very low barran sandy place here we opened our tents for the first time it was here we laid our bones down in the sand for this place is all sand we had a very pleasant passage excepting the Gale of wind in the Gulf what lasted 36 hours and the ship rolled very mutch and frightned some very much we ran between the Islands of domingo and Cuba and highlands of Cuba looms up beautiful but now i will return to my travels in Mexico we left this place on the 26th after receiveing 20 round ball cartages we struck our tents and took up our line of march up to the other end of the Island for Brasos is one (end), our march was 12 miles this bring me on to the banks of the Rio Grande river we pitch our tents for the night and on the 27st we struck our tents and cross over the river in a steamboat what took us all day to land our bagage and at 4 oclock P M we pitch our tents for the night and on the 24st at 5 oclock A M the Reverlee was beat what call us for to rise and strick and at 9 oclock we formed in and took up our line of march after a 150 badgage wagons loaded with provisions and after along and tedious march of 1 8 miles we pitch our tents for we was very tired and footsoar, but now i must leave my narative and leave it for the nects. business is here dull but the war spectulation is good the board and rent is dear and all the staff officers board at the exchange hotell and pay $12 dollars per week and they have a guard of 18 men This was as far as i have heard and seen is all a spect you may depend upon it, for some of the officers that have trades have gone to work at them. I have pass over the battle grounds and the holes where the dead where throne...personal...direct your letters to C. Company Mass regement U S army and it will follow on after you must excuse my mistakes

yours John Richardson

To Mr. Cavin B. Richardson Wobourn Mass North America County of Middlesex. Postmarked Matamoras Mex Apr 11 and "10"