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Col. Thomas W. Cahill Civil War Letters

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7-10-1863

## Letter to Margaret E. Cahill, 1863 July 10

Thomas W. Cahill

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Head Quarters 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Defences of  
New Orleans July 10<sup>th</sup> 1863

My Dear Wife

Glorious news has reached us yesterday a despatch from General Grant to Genl. Banks announced the capture of Vicksburg to day General Banks announces the capture of Port Hudson all is joy the relief of feeling here is tremendous, within two days and for three weeks past the Rebels have been threatening New Orleans, and that too with some prospect of success as we had comparatively few men to guard our immense lines calculated for twenty thousand men and we had about three, many of cooked hands for us, I have not had much sound sleep in four weeks but now all is joy, and the prospects are that the Rebels will "shed a little" in a lively manner the Rascals had nearly cut off all communication with Port Hudson with their Batteries on the River and things began to look bad



True if they had got into the City the  
Navy might shell them but it would not  
be an agreeable alternative. We are all  
well and in the best of spirits the  
Men and Officers in good health we  
have not heard from poor Judge Lihon  
we had to leave at La Juncos Crossing  
but was alone at the last account I wrote  
thus at my official desk with any qu  
antity of Officers all around me at  
waiting something attended to but  
leaving a remark that a steamer came  
to morrow I scratched the off in haste  
the steamer that brought you the birds  
came in last night. Expect a letter by  
some boat it is not yet distributed.

I send you a copy of Pretend I  
so you may imagine that I have occa  
sionally something to attend to but  
I have no idea of camp leaving far from  
it I am well in fact. The City is full  
of struggling officers and soldiers I will  
bring some to their business.

Good bye God bless you all will write to  
night if I have time. Kiss the babies as us  
ual for me.

Your loving husband  
J. P. W. Phillips