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Col. Thomas W. Cahill Civil War Letters

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3-18-1865

## Letter to Margaret E. Cahill, 1865 March 18

Thomas W. Cahill

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Head Quarters

Major General Terry  
Wilmington North Carolina  
March 18<sup>th</sup> 1865

My Dear Wife

We arrived at this place in good condition on the 11<sup>th</sup>, after a comfortable and tedious passage of 17 days from New York. Instead of 50 as I should have been were I not for a storm which struck us the second day out and sent us off into the Gulf Stream, we have finished up the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, and shall commence the 6<sup>th</sup> to day. This will take more time than the 7<sup>th</sup>, as the men are more exhausted. We have received a splendid and cordial reception here from Genl Terry and Hawley and Lt Col Howell of the 7<sup>th</sup>. We dined with Genl Hawley yesterday, and lodged with Genl Terry last night and in whose room I am now writing. About day light this A.M. we were awakened by the return of a boat which Genl Terry on the 11<sup>th</sup> pushed up from here to meet Sherman who was found at day



Moille on this, (the Cape Fear River about eighty miles above  
here) I have just heard the Letter read. Sherman says he  
has had no trouble that the "Enemy have gotten out  
of his way and stood not on the Order of his going".  
He says he has destroyed an immense quantity of comm-  
issary and Quarster Masters stores and Ordn-  
ance Stores as well as Rail Road stock. that  
Lee instead of Drawing supplies from South to North  
Carolina will have to continue to send some food down  
there. Joe Johnston is now in his front with from  
15<sup>th</sup> ~~thousand~~ men. Sherman will hereafter march  
in a more compact form. he may receive his sup-  
plies either from this place or from New Berne as  
he may Elect depending on whether he may move for-  
ward or not, I trust to be able to make a close  
inspection of Fort Fisher, before leaving this is a plea-  
ant looking town, Sherman says he between 20 to  
30 thousand refugees black and white who are hanging  
on his skirts and eating up his supplies and he  
must send them to this place, how they are to be care-  
ed for remains to be seen, I expect to leave here the  
last of this week I am writing in a great hurry

Your Loving husband  
Thos W Cahill