

In Camp near Suple
2d Texas Infanteries
Moon's Brigade

July 31.. 1862

My dear Friend,

I sent you a message
by Major Jones that I would
write you a long letter - as I
cannot write a long one I have
concluded to employ a few
minutes given me before the
starting of a messenger for Texas
to dispatch you a short letter.

I am less solicitous
now to write as I trust ere long
to be in Houston: - I am not
going to resign & I am not going
to be transferred - I am not
going to ask for leave of absence.
Now, as you have more cleverness

recently reformed arms; in
stately tramp and arms glittering
in the sun ~~from a sight full~~
~~of glory~~ as they move to the
stirring music of our new band,
are a display full of glory. It
is often said that it is better to be
a Captain in the Second Texas than
to command many of the other
regiments. -

For myself individually every thing
is most prosperous. - I cannot
tell you of some things for fear of
laying myself open to a charge of
vanity. I retain my place as

of mind than falls to the share
of most mortals. I leave to you
to conjecture the manner of my
coming... I shall be there in
person — I am over anxious to
see a dear dear friend — of yours
who lives on Main Street —

Whenever we write to a friend
we always try and find some
little courtesy for him or her to
do for us — so you may tell her
if you please that I am shortly
coming. — It is a secret too, for
I desire it not to be mentioned
to any one else.

The Second Texas is the bully
regiment of this army — it is
acknowledged to have no rival,
or rather no equal. It was
terribly torn to pieces at Shiloh.

With sincere esteem and
warm friendship
and ever a servant

Ashebel Smith