



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

SC-11848: Colonel Marcus M. Spiegel Collection, 1861-1864.

1862 February

For more information on this collection, please see the catalog record
on the American Jewish Archives website.

Miriam has a pair of boots at Express
have them sent by Express with
money I need more very much

South Branch of the Potomac
French Store July 5/61²

My dear & beloved Cary
my sweet children

I have written 4 letters
since we arrived in New York and
no answer I rec'd 1 letter from
Brother Joseph but have not heard
from you or any of my letters
I feel uneasy about home, would
give a good deal for a letter
from you my dear. You are
undoubtedly anxious to know
how we came here to this beautiful
spot of Creation. Well
Monday we got Orders to draw
3 days rations, strike tents
and pack the rations and be
packed up and ready to move
within 3 hours, you had
better believe they hurried their

only expressed letters by Express
made my boots
sent them by Express

Old Manlin to be a good boy & dig to let a good

setres, we were ordered to
report ourselves at Patterson
Creek Va 8 miles below
Cumberland Maryland, we
got there at 5 o'clock in the
Eve, when we were ordered
to report ourselves at this
Place to Brig Gen Tyler
my old friend from Rarannah
who is now with Brig Gen
(I saw him and you had better
believe he was pleased to
see me) and he told me he
would try and have and Regt
in his Brigade that lucky
for me. When we got here
however at 12 o'clock night
before last Tyler had gone
and was near to attack
the Rebels but when he got to
the Place they had left,
had we arrived here as
now arrived, we might have
had the pleasure of a night
march had the Enemy

but unfortunately we were
to late and had to wait
all night the Cars being open
stack Cars and awfully crowded
I preferred sleeping on 3 Rails
in front of an awful big
fire yesterday I felt tolerably
good yesterday, all except the
Circumstances on my body found the
soft side of a pail, it pained
all day yesterday, and some-
times we had Orders to unload
and pitch tents and sometimes not,
still waiting Orders to march across
the mountains after the Enemy
or rather to reinforce Tyler
But at 10 last night we heard
our forces were coming back
and found no Enemy and I had made
preparations in a freight Car for
Chapman and myself I slept "bully"
and ~~felt~~ never felt better in my
life than I do this morning, as bright
as a Dallas my "hile is busted"
and I am all right

Will make breakfast for the evening, that's all that's left
It may be trying for him for so few weeks, all in all he's right

I have to write in the even setting of a candle

We have sent a new Comd. for the removal of our Capt. and are looking for his arrest as charges and specifications are made sufficient to arrest and court martial any man.

I can say nothing about the folks about and through the Country whenever we have been, found the fact that neither my Lieutenants nor myself make a practice of going through the Country as a great many Officers do, to get familiar with ~~officers~~ families &c; we stay with the Boys all the time.

Write to 07th Regt, Westend Va just now we recd orders to move further down the road towards Hancock. Good bye my love, kiss the children & give my respects to all and rest assured that I am all right in every respect. It will not be many days until I can give you good news as probably see you

St Chapman wishes to } Ever your loving
be remembered to you } all news

South Branch of the Potomac

French's Store, Feby 5/62

My dear and beloved Cary

My sweet children!

I have written 4 letters since we arrived in New Creek and no answer. I rec'd letter from Oncle Joseph but have not heard wether you rec'd any of my letters. I fell uneasy about home, would give a good deal for a letter from you my dear. You are undoubtedly anxious to know how we came here to this beautyfull spot of creation. Well Monday we got Orders to draw 3 days rations, strike tents, cook the rations and be packed up and ready to move within 2 hours. You had better believe they huzzled them selves. We were ordered to report ourselves at Patterson Creek, Virginia, 8 miles below Cumberland, Maryland. We got there at 5 o'clock in the eve, when we were ordered to report ourselves at this place to Brigadier General Tyler, my old friend from Ravanah [Ravenna, Ohio] who is now our Brigadier General. (I saw him and you had better believe he was pleased to see me) and he told me he would try and have our Regiment in his Brigade. That's lucky for me. When we got here, however, at 12 o'clock night before last, Tyler had gone with 6000 men to attack the Rebels but when he got to the place they had left. Had we arrived here an hour sooner, we might have had

the pleasure of a night march to the enemy but unfortunately we were too late and had to wait all night. The Cars being open stock cars and awfully crowded, I preferred sleeping on 3 Rails in front of an awful big fire yesterday. I felt tolerably good yesterday, all except the crevices on my body from the soft side of a rail. It rained all day yesterday, and sometimes we had Orders to unload and pitch tents and sometimes not, still waiting Orders to march across the mountains after the Enemy or rather to reinforce Tyler. But at 10 last night we heard our forces were coming back and found no enemy and I had made preparations in a freight car for Chapman and myself. I slept "bully" and never felt better in my life than I do this morning, as bright as a dollar. My "bile [boil] is busted" and I am all right. We have sent a new [communication?] for the removal of our Colonel and are looking for his arrest, as charges and specifications are made sufficient to arrest and court martial any man.

I can say nothing about the folks about and through the country wherever we have been, from the fact that neither my Lieutenants nor myself make a practice of going through the country as a great many officers do, to get familiar with families and so forth. We stay with the Boys all the time.

Write to 67th Regiment Western Virginia.

Just now we received orders to move further down the road towards Hancock. Good buy my love, kiss the children & give my respects to all and rest assured that I am all right in caring respect. It will not be many days until I can give you good news and probably see you.

Lt Chapman wishes to be remembered to you.

Ever your loving

Marcus

Wiggins has a pair of Boots at Spence have them sent by Express with mine. I need mine very much. Ask Spencer wether he has made my Boots send them by Express. Tell Hamlin to be a good boy & Lizzie to be a good girl. Tell Oncle Joseph to be easy, that allthough it may be trying for him for a few weeks all will be right. I have to write in the car sitting up and have no ink.

Camp Newburg
Morgan Co Va Feb 9 62

My dear and much beloved Wife.

The enclosed letter we were
our load of the Cars and was
sent off with the Regimental
letters and we I supposed them
to their respective destinations
when to our dismay he put this
morning saying that he could
not get through our Lines to take
as bring us any mail we have
had nothing that is we
had had no mail since the
2^d of this moth. We piked
our tents yesterday and are
to a measure comfortable
again. The Millersburg Band
came up to us last night
at 12 o'clock they left with
us scattered among our
Boys and this morning we

I invited the whole Band
and their Colonel who is a
splendid man and a very
good friend of mine, to break-
fast with me, in my tent,
My boys killing 3 young
hogs during the night, gave
me a couple of nice hams
which with other things made
us a splendid repast.

I begin to feel very uneasy
and quite unhappy for not
hearing anything from you
since I saw you last.

If you can do write
4-5 Letters every week
tell me every little thing, you
do not know how it interests
me to hear from you everything
that happens, about our little
children and everybody else.

Truly I never felt better
in my life, I am not as fat
as I was by a good deal
but stout, rugged & hardy

No I am writing the Report
comes and Col I under Arrest
hope to God it may be for
if not to day it will be
to morrow.

Mr Kolbe the Leader of
the Millby Band is just
now laying out my effect
& taking a good step

If you send me these
Books by Express you may
send some other little things
along send to Cumberland
Maryland I will always
have chances to send them

The mail Seryant just now
comes in my tent and says he
is now going to try again by mail
to get our mail off, hope he will
succeed and this may reach you
I will kiss this right here. Kiss it
off. My love to all my children * 200
to them their father is well and
hopes to see them soon, keep up
spirit my love all will be

right, I will come out
of this with honor & money
all I am going for
is that our Col was an
worthless that keeps our
Boys back and I am
feared we will never have
the pleasure of being in front
of a Battle but always
away off.

If we stay here two
days we will be paid.

God bless my sweet
my good, my dear little
Cary, may God bless you
and keep you in good health
so that you may enjoy a
many, many pleasant time
in the Arms and on the Breast
of your Ever true and loving
Marcus

Very love to all

atres

Capt. Spigil
7th Reg U.S.C.
Western Va

Camp New Burg

Morgan Co. Va. Feby. 8/62

My dear and much beloved Wife,

The enclosed letter we wrote on board of the Cars and was sent off with the Regimental letters and we supposed them to their respective destinations when to our dismay he returned this morning saying that he could not get through our lines to take or bring us any mail. We have heard nothing, that is we have had no mail since the 2nd of this month. We pitched our tents yesterday and are to a measure comfortable again. The Millersburg Band came up to us last night at 12 o'clock. They slept with us scattered among my Boys and this morning I invited the whole Band and their Colonel who is a splendit man and a very good friend of mine, to breakfast with me, in my tent. My boys killing 3 young hogs during the night, gave me a couple of nice hams which with other things made us a splendit repast.

I begin to feel very uneasy and quite unhappy for not hearing anything from you since I saw you last. If you can, do write 4-5 letters every week. Tell me every little thing; you do not know how it interests me to hear from you everything that happens, about our little children and everybody else.

Bodily I never felt better in my life, I am not as fat as I was by a good deal but stout, rugged and hardy.

As I am writing, the Report comes our Colonel is under

arrest. Hope to God it may be so; if not to day it will be to
morrow....

The mail sergeant just now comes in my tent and says he is
now going to try again to get our mail off; hope he will succeed
and this may reach you. I will kiss this right here Kiss it off.
My love to all my children and say to them their father is well
and hopes to see them soon. Keep up spirit my love, all will be
right. I will come out of this with honor and Money. All I am
sorry for is that our Colonel was so worthless; that keeps our
Boys back and I am feared we will never have the pleasure of
being in front of a Battle but always away off.

If we stay here two days we will be paid.
Good buy my sweet, my good, my dear little Cary, may God bless
you and keep you in good health so that you may enjoy a many,
many pleasant time in the Arms and on the Breast of your ever
true and loving,

Marcus

My love to all
address

Capt Spiegel

67th Reg. O.V.I

Western Va.

I have no longer thanks
and we can not long stay
in this country

Camp Paw. Paw. Va
Febr 13 1862

My dear beloved Wife
My faithful Caroline!

You will see by the above
that our watchword is onward
onward, we are now in front
of the celebrated Paw. Paw Tunnel
our Camp is situated this time
The Potomack and Baltimore
and Ohio R. R run back
as to our West, an awful
Hill or mountain in front
on the East side, the
Paw Paw Tunnel and
its mountain and the north
and any of arrangement of
Camps are our South.

There must be 20000
troops in this Camp

Artillery say 40 Cannons
of all sizes, plenty of
Cavalry, and Infantry
the drums and fifes,
Bugles and trumpets
and the numerous
Brass Bands are continually
heard over the voices of the
Commanders of Divisions
Brigades, Regiments, Battalions
Companies and Squads
Goad mounting here, and
drill in the manual of Arms
there and every thing is prac-
ticed here to make one
think and ask

who wouldn't be a Soldier?
" After giving you a rough
outline of our Camp situation
I will commence and
describe to you how I came
here or rather give you
a history of what had

happened since I last
wrote to you my dear
I had just mailed two
letters to you one of which I
had send off 4 or 5 days &
came back when I rec^d.
notice that I had to set as
President of a Regimental
Court martial over 3 privates and
while we were examining the
witnesses of the first case
Lt Col Norris came in and
said we just rec^d. orders to
march immediately without our
tents and probably would
have a fight that night
and also gave me a letter
from your my love and kind
wife and when I say to
you there never was a spark
of fortune, nor any any
thing in this world that had
a more electrifying in &

influence than that
Letter had upon me,
I was a new man,
could have licked a
thousand Rebels myself
I read it and smelt
a letter, so kind and
so encouragingly and
just at a time when
I expected to meet the
enemy, When I came
to the words

"be carefull of your health,
"be brave, be kind, be
"noble and be generous"
"but above all be cautious"

I called out Comp. C
in a hurry had them
drawn in line and they
could not think what
made me feel so good

(See Sheet No 2)

(Sheet No 2)

I told them, that I just rec^d a letter from my good wife and read to them, the above Paragon they gave 3 cheers for the Captains wife and we marched out and were the first Co in the line of battle, all of us feeling good, I never felt better in my life.

We marched 9 miles on the R. R. track when we were taken to our "file left" up to a considerable of an elevation where I think I saw a very pretty sight. about 8000 men all in Regimental line having big fires in front and their arms back of them, the men laying down on the snow in front of the fire and the snow about

a foot deep. The men all
evidently well satisfied
with their situation.

We were marched in front
where we took up our po-
sition by Companies the
same as the rest, build big
fires I got 3 Rails spread
my Blanket and laid in
front of the fire but my
boys insisted on me taking
3 more blankets and I
Slept tolerably well, except that
the pointy end of one of the
rails would not soften down.
the first time I ever Slept in
the winter on the snow out
doors, but I had a letter
from you and when I tell
you I felt as good and as
well satisfied as though I
Slept in a downy feather
bed, My conscience is clear.

and I had just heard my family was well.

The next morning when our Scouts returned they bro^g the news that the Enemy had fallen back, we were therefore ordered about a half a mile along the R. R. when we were told to try and make ourselves as comfortable as possible under the circumstances, Our Boys fixed themselves shanties out of Rail one end on the ground the other up about 4 feet high and covering the same with pine and Spruce brush also spreading pine and Spruce along on the floor and they slept in two nights they fixed us a shanty ^{with} a big fire in front the 3rd day I was ordered with my Company about 3 miles on Picket Guard

to report myself
first to Head Quarters, &
then saw the celebrated
Genl. Lander, the Commander
of all these forces a very
nice looking Genl. and
a Gentleman, I read my
instructions from him
went out and spread
my Company in Picket
Posts of from 4 to 8
on every little road &c
for 4 miles with in-
structions if they see
anything or get attacked
fire and fall back to
my quarter which
was on the side of a
hill where I kept my
body guard of about
10 men and my 1st Lt,
we had not much
happen to us of any note

(Oct 3)

^{to letters to Chicago}
Still uncle Joseph & have written
at 8 o'clock at night I sent
one of my men in to see whether
the mail had come in, I thought
what a pretty thing it would be
to get a letter from home and
to behold I got your and
uncle Joseph's letter
You might as well write
up your mind I felt badly.

When we set out next day to
Camp all safe and sound when
after I rec'd. a Compliment from
Genl' Sanders Aid-de-Camp
that I was the best Officer
on picket that he had met for
a great while we found our tents
and baggage had come.

We commenced pitching them
and last night I felt slept
in my own bunk on a lot of
fine Spruce and pine Spruce.

3 Quilts over them and
4 woolen Blankets over
me I slept like a baby
and feel good.

I am none the worse for
wear, feel Exceedingly good
take good care of myself
quarrel with nobody except
Col Querstenbinder whom
I despise worse than any
other man ~~that~~ I ever
knew, but we had additional
assurance from the Gov. last
night, that as soon as the war
department in Washington can
reach them he will go to h-l
and that will be in a few days.

I had a good deal of trouble
with my Coats I tried several
and none was worth a d - n
We have a good one now, one
of my boys, we had a
nice Chicken Soup

and some pork. Sometimes
our eating is hard but
I can eat most anything
now, I have eat boiled
Cabbage (boiled with pork)
and Beef) like a major;
in short you may rest
perfectly easy so far as
I am concerned. I am
sure I will get out of this
in good health and with plenty
of tin. Tell uncle Joseph that
my letters to you are intended
for him and tell him also
that I expect in a few
days to be able to send
money enough home to make
everything all right and
tell him not to be out of
humor, that whatever I
do good for me I do for
him, and that I love

Expect to be able to call
him to my side.

Tell Hamlin that I was
very much pleased to hear
that he is such a good
boy and that as soon as
I come home and if I am
in the coast yet when Jommie
comes if he is a good boy
he may stay with me
four weeks, tell Lizzie
that I felt so good when
I heard that she is such
a good child and that the
teacher speaks so well of
her, that I almost cried
Tell Mowry I am anxious
to see him and that Pa
Pa is at Pass. Parr.

I am writing on a chair and
my left and must close
for to day, the Parade
will be at Ever your love
Mercus

I have no postage stamps and we can not buy any in this county

Camp Paw Paw, Va.

Feb. 13, 1862

My dear beloved Wife

My faithful Caroline!

You will see by the above that our watchword is onward, onward. We are now in front of the celebrated Paw Paw Tunnel. Our Camp is situated this time [with] the Potomac and Baltimore and Ohio Railroad now back or to our West, an awful Hill or mountain in front or on the East side, the Paw Paw Tunnel and its mountain on the north and any amount of camps on our South.

There must be 20,000 troops in this camp, artillery say 40 Cannons of all sizes, plenty of Cavelery, and Infantry. The drums and fifes, Bugles and trumpets and the numerous Brass Bands are continually heard over the voices of the Commanders of Divisions, Brigades, Regiments, Battalions, Companies and Squads. Guard mounting here, and drill in the manual of Arms there and every thing is practiced here to make one think and ask "who wouldent be a Soldier?"

After giving you a rough outline of our Camp situation I will commence and describe to you how I came here or rather give you a history of what had happened since I last wrote to you my dear.

I had just mailed two letters to you, one of which I had sent off 4 or 5 days and came back when I received notice that I had to sit as President of a Regimental Court Martial over 3 privates and while we were examining the witnesses of the first case Lieutenant Colonel Voris came in and said we just received orders to march immediately without our tents and probably would have a fight that night and also gave me a letter from you, my love and kind wife. And when I say to you there never was a streak of fortune nor any thing in this world that had a more electrifying influence than that letter had upon me, I was a new man, could have licked a thousand Rebels myself. I read it and such a letter, so kind and so encouragingly [worded] and just at a time when I expected to meet the enemy. When I came to the words: "be careful of your health, be brave, be kind, be noble and be generous but above all be cautious," I called out Company C in a hurry, had them drawn in a line and they could not think what made me feel so good. I told them, that I just received a letter from my good wife and read to them the above Passage. They gave 3 cheers for the Captain's wife and we marched out and were the first Company in the line of battle, all of us feeling good. I never felt better in my life.

We marched 9 miles on the Railroad track when we were

taken to our "file left" up to a considerable of an elevation where I think I saw a very pretty sight: about 8000 men all in Regimental line having big fires in front and their arms back of them; the men laying down on the snow in front of the fire and the Snow about a foot deep; the men all evidently well satisfied with their situation. We were marched in front where we took up our position by Companies the same as the rest, build big fires. I got 3 Rails, spread my Blanket and laid in front of the fire but my boys insisted on me taking 3 more blankets and I slept tolerably well, except that the pointy side of one of the rails would not soften down. The first time I ever slept in the winter on the snow out doors, but I had a letter from you and when I tell you I felt as good and as well satisfied as though I slept in a downy feather bed. My conscience is clear and I had just heard my family was well.

The next morning when our Scouts returned they brought the news that the Enemy had fallen back. We were therefore ordered about a half a mile along the Railroad where we were told to try and make ourselves as comfortable as possible under the circumstances. Our Boys fixed themselves shanties out of Rail, one end on the ground the other up about 4 feet high and covering the same with pine and spruce brush, also spreading pine and spruce on the floor and they slept in

[them] two nights. They fixed me a shanty, a big fire in front. The 3d day I was ordered with my Company about 3 miles on Picket guard, to report myself first to head quarters. I there saw the celebrated General Lander, the Commander of all these forces, a very nice looking General and a Gentleman. I received my instructions from him, went out and spread my Company in Picket Posts of from 4 to 8 on every little road and so forth for 4 miles, with instructions if they see anything or get attacked [to] fire and fall back to my quarter which was on the side of a hill where I kept my body guard of about 10 men and my 1st Lieutenant. We had not much happen to us of any note. At 8 o'clock at night I sent one of my men in to see whether the mail had come in. I thought what a pretty thing it would be to get a letter from home and lo behold I got your and Uncle Joseph's 2nd letter. You might as well make up your mind I felt bully. When we returned next day to Camp all safe and sound when after I received a compliment from General Lander's Aide-de-Camp that I was the best Officer on Picket that he had met for a great while. We found our tents and baggage had come.

We commenced pitching them and last night I slept in my own bunk on a lot of fine Spruce and pine Sprouts, 3 Quilts over them and 4 woolen Blankets over me. I slept like a baby and feel good.

I am none the worse for wear, feel exceedingly good, take good care of myself, quarrel with nobody except Colonel Buerstenbinder whom I despise worse than any other man I ever knew, but we had additional assurance from the Governor last night, that as soon as the war department in Washington can reach them he will go to h--l and that will be in a few days.

I had a good deal of trouble with my Cooks. I tried several and none was worth a d--n. We have a good one now, one of my boys. We had a nice chicken soup and some pork. Sometimes our eating is hard but I can eat most anything now. I have eat boiled cabbage (boiled with pork) and beef) like a major. In short you may rest perfectly easy as far as I am concerned. I am sure I will get out of this in good health and with plenty of tin. Tell Uncle Joseph that my letters to you are intended for him and tell him also that I expect in a few days to be able to send money enough home to make everything all right and tell him not to be out of humor, that whatever I do good for me I do for him, and that I soon expect to be able to call him to my side.

Tell Hamlin that I was very much pleased to hear that he is such a good boy and that as soon as [I] come home and if I am in the war yet when summer comes, if he is a good boy

he may stay with me four weeks. Tell Lizzie that I felt so good when I heard that she is such a good child and that the teacher speaks so well of her, that I almost cried. Tell Mosey I am anxious to see him and that Pa Pa is at Paw Paw.

I am writing on a chair on my lap and must close for to day, the Parade roll beats.

Ever your love,

Marcus



1
New York Pa July 17/62

My dear and much beloved Wife
My good & sweet Children

This is Monday morning and raining
a regular blue Monday, I am sitting
on my bunk have a book on my lap
paper on the floor and am communicating
with my dear ones at home.

You may probably ask how it came
I did not write yesterday (Sunday)
the answer I was on duty as officer
of the day, (and a regular summer
day it was) had no time until
after 10 o'clock last night when
feeling very tired I laid down on
my virtuous Couch and slept fine
dreaming of my good wife and
Children and friends I left at home
and a sweet dream it was.

I had just mailed my last letter
to you when the long Roll was
beaten, which is a signal of alarm
and calls every soldier out
armed and equipped, when we
were informed to provide ourselves
with 3 days rations and march
down to the Capon River and
attack the enemy. I never yet
was so tired since I am in the
service & kept on the day I wrote
to you the last letter.

I had one of my old fashioned head ache
on the left side of my forehead over
my eye feeling as though it would
"burst", but when we got the
"order to march" I said nothing
checked my bag and got ready
taking a piece of a Chicken which
our Cook had ready and a
hand Gauntlet in my Haversack
my Revolver and Sword and
started at the head of my
company, which position I
held during the whole of the
march, without once complaining.
We were marched right behind
the 13th Indiana Reg^t, Col
Sullivan. We started here at
4 o'clock in the afternoon on
Thursday, and here deep
for the first 2 miles, until
we got on the Winchester Pike
there it was not muddy, but
a soft slippery snow, we
were led on the Pike for
3 miles when the order was
given to turn off to the left
through a rough and newly
made road through the
woods. We marched on this
road about 4 1/2 miles when
we were ordered to counter
march to where we turned
off and take the Pike.

in order to cut off the Retreat
of the Enemy, who would be attacked
on the other Side from the 1st Va
Cavalery, the 7th Va, 4th and 8th
Ohio Infantry (the latter Dr Eights
Regt) We marched on the Pike
untill 2 o'clock in the morning
when we were ordered to halt
squad right down and go to sleep
if we could on our Arms.

Hold on I forgot to tell you
that our own march we had to climb
a Hill of at least 3/4 miles long and
awfull high a grand Scenery to
behold by moonlight, our awfull
Hill all the time our one side
of high Rocks and scattered
Pine and Spruce trees and on
the other Side the grandest precipice
down down as far as men could
see, with an awfull pulling of
water which at first sight, would
naturally stop a person and
make him look and admire and
chill at the awfull, romantic
and fearful sight, if I had not
had an advantage I should never
have got up the Hill, the advantage
was that by stepping 3 paces
forward I only slid 2 back
ward gaining one pace every
time, had it been Vice Versa
I never should have got up

But I got up and the foremost
of my Company too, with an
awfull Headache, the Sweat
pouring down off of my face
head almost equal to the
East Liberty Spring and when we
got our tops we stopped, rested
I wiped the sweat, blowed off
and at once my Headache was
gone and I felt Extremely good
free, light, and healthy and
not a bit tired, as though I
just got off out of bed after
a good nights rest.

Now let us go back to where
we stopped and think of the
happings I enjoyed when Gen
Mygand stepped up and told
me that he and 2 other boys
of my Company, had taken
a Blanket a piece from my
Bed and bro't them with
them for me, I then laid down
one Blanket that I put
under me and 3 Blankets that
the Boys bro't over me and
slept as good as ever I
did in my life, nice and warm
and soft untill the Sergeant
major came to me a little be-
fore the Break of day and
told me, let my Co fall in
quately and march on

After marching about a mile we came
to the mouth River close by the
fork of the Capon River, It had
no Bridge and we had to wade
it, I jumped in called out
god the boys to follow, the Cap.
Waters up to my hips, a rapid
Stream and I saw Dixie and crossed
it over first, Christ Kelled the
Boy that stayed at our house
one night Dr. I think I never
wore anything since I am a Soldier
that endeared me as much to my
Boys as that crossing the River.

We even marched on from there
and halted in front of the big
Capon River awaiting to hear
the booming of the Cannon on the
other Side and then cross it &
give the Rebels fire.

We were allowed however to build
big fires and try our Glocks and
for the first time I left the Co
and went with Dr. Westfall in
a House close by and got a
Room with a big old fashioned
fire place, where I stripped and
tied off. My drawers, Stockings
Pants &c. I felt badly after we
got all try. Mrs. Log the lady
of the House was very fine old
Lady very kind and a Union
lover, (as she said)

When I say to you, that my boys
my Officers and your humble
Servant felt keen for a fight
I say to you only that which
is true if we had been permitted
to cross the River and have
a little fight and our own
honor, we agreed as soon as
the fight commenced to throw
off our Blankets and our Coats
and go it. I felt just as
positive of success and that
I could give you a description
of a Battle as I am now
giving you a sketch of our
march. But we did not
get into the fight very near
than you write and as the
Rebels had been informed by
some spy or other of our position
they changed their road and
did not come to us. The Rebels
done all the fighting they killed
about 40. took 50 prisoners
and wounded some 40 or 50
the our folks lost 2 killed and
have 2 wounded. When we
waited until about 3 o'clock
in the afternoon our other
forces met us and we were
ordered to march back to camp
we waded the River and camped
in the woods for a hour and made a big fire
and tried ourselves.

Since I wrote out the opposite Page, I
was called to Dinner, Mr Chapman cooked
Dinner to day. We had fresh beef soup
with desiccated vegetables and desiccated
Potatoes in, fried Hamany, fried desiccated
Potatoes, Beef, Macaroni Pie (which
the boys treated for Cream) opened the
Can of Peaches which Wagoner of Berlin
gave me for the Surgeon Genl., Coffee
Crackers and Molasses. A bully
bully dinner of which I eat heartily
and after dinner we were called
to Head Quarters to hear a dispatch
read from Washington stating our
troops took 1500 Prisoners and
gave them H - C generally.

Thin desiccated vegetables are pressed
& dried vegetables consisting of Cabbage
Carrots, Turnips, Onions, Salat, &c
pressed in the shape of a "Butterblock",
which if you soak will swell up and
make a fine soup, desiccated Potatoes
are dried and pressed and by boiling swell
and are like other Potatoes. We draw
them of the Quarter Master as well as
Molasses, Coffee, Sugar, Cauler, Soap
Beans, Rice, Peas, Pork, Beans
and occasionally fresh Beef, we
buy of the Quarter Master for
Lt, Chapman, Lt Childs & myself.
It is hard sometimes on us of getting
nothing but Pork for weeks &
still if we had Bread instead

of the Cold bathed Crocker, I think we would do bully;

I have trippered on your patience with Cairns and now go back to our march, we left the Woods this side of North River at 3 o'clock and reached here at 10 o'clock nothing happened on the march but of my note I got that the Boys of the 8th on hearing of our returning I sent a lot of Whiskey and gear every Boy of the 8th their older Sister, a horn of Whiskey.

We arrived in our Camp at 10 o'clock Friday Eve in absence of 30 hours having marched 41 miles over the mountains I slept on the ground and waded the river twice and had a fair prospect of a fight and I am happy to say I felt strong and good and now since 3 days after the march I feel better every day. I was somewhat disappointed after I came home in the eve, and making his calculations on a nice post in my bunk and finding it occupied by Col. Anidansail a friend of mine (the Col of the 1st Va Cavalry where our Band boys belong) who got ruptured in the fight that day, and my friend Kolbe was very carefully attending him, and I had consequently to sleep on the floor but slept bully.

Their tents not being here yet, he and Kolke stayed with us till last night when they got their tents, the Abair boys stopping with my boys & Capt. Tip Irvine who was quite unwell stopped with my 2nd Lieut.

Our Regimental Affairs are still undecided, we had a letter from our Messenger who went to Columbus that the Gov. send him to Columbus Washington and he intends to be back by tomorrow with the Order of the Suspension of Col. Pauson's hindered Command, would to God he may succeed, I hate and despise that man as I ever hated or despised man and you know I don't very often hate, him and I are at the nicest quarrelling relations.

It Col. Voss and I still continue to be as good friends as ever was found, he is a friend, a man and my style, our Major Tom and myself are very intimate he is a jolly good fellow I like all the officers of the Regt. except 4, the 4 I only dislike but one I hate above all.

You may tell Hamlin that I am
well and very anxious to see
him, tell him that I marched
off for a battle, with Cannon and
Cavalry the Cannon loaded and
the guns all loaded and tell him
I felt like fighting for him,
tell him that I have a nice
Revolver that shoots five times
at once, tell him it would
kill a cow across the Millbrook
hillback, tell him when
the war is over and I do
not lose it, he shall have
it to keep providing he is
a very good boy and betrays
himself first rate to you
while I am gone

Tell Lizzie that she must
be a very good girl, that before
I come home I will get
a dress like Belie's for her,
which must be very nice
she must be a very good child
and mind you and then she will
get the nicest thing she ever
saw. Tell Hamlin to write
a letter to me in his A B C
book style, and I will be very
much pleased. Tell Mosey about
us so that he won't forget us and
kiss them all thousand times for us

Of course Uncle Joseph will read
my letters that I write to you
they are no secret, tell him
that I often wish he was
with me and tell him to keep
in good spirit and not leave
Willesbury till I send for him
we do not want to leave May
if the war ends by Summer
I can raise quite a nice little
pile of money and we stay in
the Warehouse, we do not
want to sell the Warehouse
I will send home about
\$400 or shortly, I do not feel
like selling the warehouse
if we owe any thing to Henry
and I should not proceed
in getting the ~~Warehouse~~ for Amash
Ship for Henry I will send the
money. We are making out
and jany and Fleby Payrolls
things will soon be all right.
We may probably stay here
for some time, tell Uncle Jany
that my fortune is his and what I
make he shall have his share, just live
well and feel easy.

Tell Elizabeth to keep herself in good trim
be a good girl and say to her if she is
first take for her she may have my 3^d
Sergeant for her husband the best boy
in the Regt.

When I tell you my sweet good wife that
my thoughts my all, my very life con-
centrates in your wellbeing and that
of my little children and my brother mother
and sisters, I mean now particularly
that you should take good care of your
selves and keep up your spirits, just feel
that I am all right and that if you just
take my advice you will rest write
often, sing, laugh, and dream of me as
I do of you. I had a letter from Cabot
he says that you were all well as far as
he knew. how does that come? Does he not
know whether my family is well for sure?

Have you done anything about my boots? if you
have not sew them yet sew a pair for Gen
Wygant along, his wife knows all about,
You may send me something nice to eat
in the Port it will not cost any more
a bottle of something drink wont hurt any
body you may direct the Port to Cumber-
land Mt. and write me about it
Direct all your letters for the time
being Paw. Paro Va.

My good wife and children, good
brother and all, having written
3 sheets of nonsense I hope you will
excuse and write soon to
your true loving
Mason

Paw Paw, Va. Feby. 17/62

My dear and much beloved Wife

My good and sweet Children!

This is Monday morning amid raining, a regular blue Monday. I am sitting on my bunk, have a book on my lap, paper on the book and am communicating with my dear once at home.

You may probably ask how it came I did not write yesterday (Sunday); the answer I was on duty as officer of the day, (and a regular Summer day it was), had no time until after 10 o'clock last night when, feeling very tired, I laid down on my virtuous couch and slept fine, dreaming of my good wife and children and friends I left at home and a sweet dream it was.

I had just mailed my last letter to you when the Long Roll was beaten, which is a signal of alarm and calls every Soldier out armed and equipped, when we were informed to provide ourselves with 3 days' rations and march down to the Capon [Cacapon] River and attack the enemy. I never yet was sick since I am in the service except on the day I wrote to you the last letter. I had one of my old fashion headaches on the left side of my forehead over my eye, feeling as though it would "bust", but when we got the order to march I said

nothing, cheered my boys and got ready, taking a piece of chicken which our cook had ready and a hard cracker in my Havresack, my Revolver and Sword and started on the Head of my company, which position I held during the whole of the march, without once complaining. We were marched right behind the 13th Indianah Regiment, Colonel Sullivan. We started here at 4 o'clock in the afternoon on Thursday, mud knee deep for the first 2 miles until we got on the Winchester Pike. There it was not muddy, but a soft slippery snow. We were led on the Pike for 3 miles when the Order was given to turn off to the left through a rough and newly made road through the woods. We marched on this road about 4-1/2 miles when we were ordered to counter march to where we turned off and take the Pike in order to cut off the Retreat of the Enemy, who would be attacked on the other side from the first Virginia Cavelery, the 7th Virginia, 4th and 8th Ohio Infantry (the latter Dr. Ebright's Regiment). We marched on the Pike until 2 o'clock in the morning when we were ordered to halt, squad right down, and go to sleep if we' could on our arms.

Hold on, I forgot to tell you that on our march we had to climb a Hill of at least 3-1/2 miles long and awful high, a grand Scenery to behold by moonlight; an awful hill, all the time on one side of high Rocks and Scattered Pine and Spruce trees and on the other Side the grandest

precipice down, down, as far as men could see, with an awful rolling of Water which at first sight, would naturally stop a person and make him look, admire and chill at the awful, romantic and fearful sight. If I had not had an advantage I should never have got up the Hill; the advantage was that by step- ping 3 paces forward I only slit two backward, gaining one pace every time. Had it been Visa Versa I never should have got up. But I got up the foremost of my Company too, with an awful Headache, the Sweat pouring down off my forehead almost equal to the East Liberty Spring and when we got on top we stopped, rested, I wiped the sweat, blowed off and at once my Headache was gone and I felt extremely good, free, light, and healthy and not a bit tired, as though I just got out of bed after a good night's rest.

Now let us go back to where we stopped and think of the happiness I enjoyed when George Wygand stepped up and told me that he and 2 other boys of my Company, had taken a Blanket apiece from my Bed and brought them with them for me. I then laid down, one Blanket that I had under me and 3 Blankets that the Boys brought over me and slept as good as ever I dit in my life, nice and warm and soft until the Sergeant major came to me a little before the Break of day and told me, let my Company fall in quietly and march on.

After marching about a mile we came to the north River close by the fork of the Capon [Cacapon] River. It had no Bridge and we had to wade it. I jumped in, called for the Boys to follow the Captain, water up to my hips, a rapid stream, and sang Dixie and crossed it over first; Christ Keller, the boy that stayed at our house one night, 2nd. I think I never done any thing since I am a Soldier that endeared me as much to my Boys as that crossing the River.

We were marched on from there and halted in front of the big Capon [Cacapon] River, awaiting to hear the booming of the cannon on the other side and then cross it and give the Rebels fits.

We were allowed however to build big fires and try [dry] our clothing and for the first time I left the Company and went with Dr. Westfall in a House close by and got a room with a big old fashion fire place, where I stripped and tried [dried] off. My drawers, stockings, pants and so forth felt bully after we got all try. Mrs. Loy, the lady of the House, was [a] very fine old lady, very kind and a Union lover, (as she said).

When I say to you that my boys, my officers and your humble servant felt keen for a fight I say to you only that which is true. If we had been permitted to cross the River and have a little fight on our own hook, we agreed as soon

as the fight commenced to throw off our Blankets and over coats and go it. I felt just as certain of success and that I could give you a description of a Battle as I am now giving you a sketch of our march. But we did not get into the fight any nearer than 1/2 mile and as the Rebels had been informed by some spy or other of our position they changed their road and did not come to us. The Cavalry done all the fighting; they killed about 40, took 58 prisoners and wounded some 40 or 50. Our folks lost 2 killed and have two wounded. When we waited until about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, our other forces met us and we were ordered to march back to camp. We waded the River and camped in the woods for an hour and made a big fire and tried ourselves.

Since I wrote on the opposite page, I was called to dinner; Lieutenant Chapman cooked dinner to day. We had fresh beef soup with desicated vegetables and desicated potatoes in, fried hominy, fried desicated potatoes, beef, blackberry pie (which the Boys traded for cream), opened the can of peaches which Werner of Berlin gave me for the Surgeon General, coffee, crackers and molasses. A bully dinner of which I eat harty and after dinner we were called to Head Quarters to hear a dispatch read from Washington stating our troops took 15,000 prisoners and gave them H--l generally.

This desicated vegetables are pressed and tried [dried]

vegetables consisting of Cabbage, Carrots, turnips, onions, salad, and so forth pressed in the shape of a "Butterkooche" [butter cookie] which if you soak will swell up and make a french soup. Desicated potatoes are tried and pressed and by boiling swell and are like other potatoes. We draw them of the Quarter Master as well as Molasses, Coffee, Sugar, Candles, Soap, Beans, Rice, Peas, Pork, Bacon and occasionally fresh Beef. We buy of the Quarter Master for Lieutenant Chapman, Lieutenant Childs and myself. It is hard sometimes on account of getting nothing but pork for weeks and still if we had Bread instead of the Sole leather crackers ["hard tack"], I think we would do bully.

I have trespassed on your patience with eatings and now go back to our march. We left the woods this side of north River at 3 o'clock and reached here at 10 o'clock. Nothing happened on the march back of any note except that the Boys of the 60th Ohio hearing of our returning send a lot of whiskey and give every Boy of the 67th, their older sister, a horn of whiskey.

We arrived in our Camp at 10 o'clock Friday eve, an absence of 30 hours, having marched 41 miles over the mountains, slept on the ground and waded the river twiced and had a fair prospect of a fight and I am happy to say I felt strong and good and now 3 days after the march I feel better

every day. I was somewhat disappointed after I came home in the Eve; and making big calculations on a nice roost in my bunk and finding it occupied by Colonel Anisansel, a friend of mine (the Colonel of the 1st Virginia Cavellery where our Bandboys belong) who got ruptured in the fight that day and my friend Kolbe was very carefully attending him and I had consequently to sleep on the floor but slept bully.

Their tents not being here yet, he and Kolbe stayed with me till last night when they got their tents, the Band boys stopping with my boys, except Tip Irvine who was quite unwell stopped with my 2nd Lieutenant.

Our Regimental affairs are still undecided. We had a letter from our Messenger who went to Columbus that the Governor sent him to Washington and he intends to be back by tomorrow with the Order of the Suspension of Colonel Buerstenbinder's Command. Would to God he may succeed. I hate and despise that man as I ever hated or despised man and you know I don't very often hate. Him and I are at the nicest quarrelling relations.

Lieutenant Colonel Voris and I still continue to be as good friends as ever was born; he is a friend, a man and my style. Our Major Bond and myself are very intimate; he is a jolly good fellow. I like all the officers of the Regiment except 4; the 4 I only dislike but one I hate above all.

You may tell Hamlin that I am well and very anxious to

see him. Tell him that I marched off for a battle, with Cannons and Cavelery; the Cannons loaded and the Guns all loaded and tell him I felt like fighting for him. Tell him that I have a nice Revolver that shoots five times at once. Tell him it would kill a cow across the Killbuck. Tell him when the War is over and I do not lose it, he shall have it to keep providing he is a very good boy and behaves himself first rate to you while I am gone.

Tell Lizzie that she must be a very good Girl, that before I come home I will get a Sesesh [Secessionist] Relic for her, which must be very nice. She must be a very good child and mind you and then she will get the nicest thing she ever saw. Tell Hamlin to write a letter to me in his A B C book style, and I will be very much pleased. Tell Mosey about me so that he won't forget me and kiss them all [a] thousand times for me.

Of course Oncle Joseph will read my letters that I write to you; they are no secret. Tell him that I often wish he was with me and tell him to keep in good Spirit and not leave Millersburg till I send for him. We do not want to leave Millersburg. If the war ends by Summer, I can raise quite a nice little pile of money and we stay in the Warehouse; we do not want to sell the Warehouse. I will send home about \$700 shortly. I do not feel like selling

the warehouse; if we owe anything to Henry and I should not succeed in getting the Quarter mastership for Henry, I will send the money. We are making out our January and February Payrolls. Things will soon be all right.

We may probably stay here for some time, tell Uncle Josey that my fortune is his and what I make he shall have his share, just live well and feel easy.

Tell Elizabeth to keep herself in good trim, be a good girl; and say to her, if she is first Rate, for her she may have my 3d Sergeant for her husband, the best boy in the Regiment.

When I tell you my sweet good wife that my thoughts, my all, my very life concentrates in your wellbeing and that of my little children and my brother, mother, and sisters, I mean more particularly that you should take good care of yourselves and keep up your Spirits. Just feel that I am all right and that if you just take my advice you will write often, sing, laugh, and dream of me as I do of you. I had a letter from Cohn; he says that you were all well as far as he knew. How does that come? Does he not know whether my family is well for sure?

Have you done anything about my boots? If you have not sent them yet send a pair for Geo Wygam along, his wife knows all about.

You may send me something nice to eat in the Box; it will not cost any more. A bottle of something to drink won't hurt anybody. You may direct the Box to Cumberland, Maryland, and write me about it. Direct all your letters for the time being [to] Paw Paw, Virginia.

My good wife and children, good Brother and all, having written 3 sheets of nonsense I hope you will excuse and write soon to

Your true and loving,
Marcus



①

O. W. O. W. Feby 19/62

My dear Brotho Moses.

I suppose you think I have forgotten you, but not so, there is not an hour passing but I think of you and frequently have I dreamed of you and very often in the day I see your form standing right before me a friend as you have always been to me is not to be forgotten I suppose you think why did you not write then? But dear Moses in my new calling as a Soldier I really have so far had but very little time for me so as to recreate or even write to my friends. Thousand things to do and to attend Drill & Parade, marching & counter-marching, requisitions and descriptive lists, nothing up & Regimental Orders and everything has to be attended to. You know I am a Captain of Co. C the Color Comp of the 67th Regt & I will now give you a little history of the past present and future of my military life, if I do not break down.

When I went into the service I calculated on being Quarter Master of the 45th Regt which by Order of the Adj. Genl was consolidated with the 67th & the 67th formed, by which management my Quarter Mastership of course worked into a cocked hat, to the great displeasure of many of my friends.

And then packed & required me.

But since that I am not found
as I think besides the Suttler there
is no position outside of military
in a Regt. that pays. Suttler must
pay from \$50 to \$100 per day as
they sell from \$100 to \$300 per day
at enormous prices, and their money
as fine as the State of Ohio
whether the law pursues them or not.

I was home on a visit from 16th
to 18th of last Mo. and the day
that I started for Uniontown I
got a dispatch to join my Company
forthwith as we had moving orders.

When I returned to Columbus we left
next day for Va. in Order to reinforce
several Regts. who were in danger
from an attack of the Rebel Gen
Jackson. When we arrived at
Benwood Va. the Ohio force
rapidly that we had to run up hill
about 2 miles and camp on
a very nice slope of land along
the banks of the Grand Ohio River
We camped there 2 days when the
River fell and the RR passable
we were put in Stock Cars and
hauled on to New Creek Va. where
at that time there was a force
of about 7000 Inf. 1200 Cav. & 6
Guns of Artillery

Before we were there a week there
was at least 2000 Inf. 2000 Con
to Polk's Art. There I acted for
the first time as Brigade Officer
or rather Field Officer of the day
I had to visit all the Pickets, Post
Posts Guard & transmit the
Counter-sign & Parole and go out
again once after 12 o'clock at
night, having acted several times in
that capacity in Camp Chase Columbus
I knew all about it the only diff
is that when you gallop round at
Va there was a possibility of meeting
an enemies scouting party, while
Camp Chase the safest thing you
could meet was an Officer with
a Bible. We stayed at New Creek
~~from~~ 10 or 12 days when we got
Orders to march to Pattersons Creek
and report to Gen. Tyler (a friend of
mine from Ravanna) and go with
him to Romney to attack Col
Jennings of the Rebel Army that
night, but unfortunately something
happened to the Engine & when we
arrived ~~at~~ at the place of Rendezvous
Tyler had left with his brigade.
We layed in our Cars that night
and next night, the Cars being so
extremely crowded and old freight
Cars at that, I preferred to try for
the first time to wrap myself in

in my blanket and lay on the ground
by a big Rail fence fence Rail fence
and I slept hully.

After the 2nd night we were ordered
to pitch our tents and as in a few
Creek we pitched between the RR
track & the Potomac we had
just slept in our tents one night
when the next day at 4 o'clock
P.M. we rec^d. Orders to march
without knapsacks & only Blankets
and 3 days Rations in our Haversacks.
We started being ready in a short
time (the Col. Company) always is
and after marching 12 miles we
were stopped about 1 mile from
here where we expected an attack
from the Enemy, slept on our
Arms and on the Snow for the
Rest of the night and next
morning our Cav. Scouts ret^d
with the information the Enemy
had fallen back 28 miles from
here we then commenced fixing
Pens of Rails covering them
with Pine and Spruce brush
which is plenty in this Country &
covering the ground with them we
got along pretty comfortable
but for Mars Stern Command
I was ordered on Outpost picket
Guard with my whole Company

Continued March 9/52

which I cheerfully done, as it was something I had not done in the service yet, nothing occurred that night save a trunked (I suppose) *Ar de Camp* party who endeavored to pass my Head Quarters by all means, when I got my 3 nearest Posts 27 in numbers and gave the Command *preme*, ready, *win*, when the *Ar de Camp* & party soon thought best to retreat, by first however saying don't shoot we meant no harm. Next day I got Complimented by Genl. Lander who Commands this Division of the Potomac, by saying, "I'd be your humble servant" was the best Officer he had met since he took this Command.

Three days we laid out that way when to our joy our Camps or *Tents* came, we pitched them Wednesday last and slept bully on Thursday at 3 o'clock in the afternoon we got Orders to march within an hour, with 3 days Rations no Knapsacks only Blankets & *Umbrellas*, Amm^o & 50 Rounds of Cartridges. We left Camp at precisely 4 o'clock I had been quite unwell and had

It not been that my marches
might be assailed I should not
have marched, as I was very
unwell with the headache of
my worst kind and a severe
Cold all day. But I started
and at the Head of my Camp
As we started for the first
4 miles the wind was fully three
deep a soft & smoky ugly
wind when however we got
in the woods the snow had
not melted all but was just
going away. When after 6 miles
over Va Hills we came to a
fork in the Road when we were
ordered to take the left Road
the 13th Ind. Regt was ahead
of us & several Co behind us
we had marched out this Road
over the awfullest roughest &
highest Mountain I have
seen (Except one which I will
hereafter mention) about 6 miles
when our Cavalry Col came
galloping up & said that the
Rebels were retreating & we must
cut off the retreat at the forks of the
North River and the big Cacapon, "about
face" march" was the order and we
did about face until we came to
the forks of the Road, when we filed left
and left oblique & went it

We crossed about 30 Streams up to our
shins & a little higher, we stopped &
loaded in a rough hollow and then
up a airfull mountain, steep
& up for 3 miles, but Moses I
kept ahead of the Camp & when
we were on top of the mountain
the Sweat rolled down on me like
the East Liberty Spring I stopped, wiped
off the Sweat and blowed a little &
my head ache was all gone, I felt
light & easy & never never in my
life breathe more free, it seemed
as though my whole system was
revolutionized I felt tip top & have ever
since after we had marched 22 miles at
about 2 o'clock A.M. we were halted in
front of the wood River ordered to lay down
on our arms and at the first firing of Guns
(from the division who had gone to attack the
enemy in the rear) to jump up & be ready
we slept till a little before the break of day, allow
me here to say how pleasantly I was surprised
when we were ordered to lay down. 4 of my boys
stepped up to me & gave me a Blanket a piece, which
they had taken from my Bed & carried besides their
own, without my knowledge for they meant
o. but I slept sweet being tired having 5 woollen
Blankets to wrap myself up, as soon as I
drowsed I was asleep & slept until a little before
daylight the Adjutant told me to rouse my Co. quietly
and have them "fall in" when this was done
orders was given to Guard the River

o such squinting & picking out of Road & to get the best way, was to go straight through as it went up far above the thighs wherever one went. When Co. H I had crossed I turned to my Co & I screamed "the man that can not follow his Captain is not worth having" going right in ahead of my Co & the consequence was, my boys followed without breaking ranks, for which we were praised by the whole Regt. After we got across we hid in bushes fired a fire kept in line of battle and waited for the Enemy, but they leaving no information from some source changed within 1/2 mile from us and when we came up, now safe the Cavalry got a chance to fight as they had the start & were winning, the Cavalry killed 43. took 56 prisoners among them a Col and Adj. Genl. 2 Capts & 12 Lieuts & wounded 48. we had 2 killed and 3 wounded

29/6/1962

It is late I am tired, it rains like hell the Roads awfull & we are likely to be idle awhile, I will finish my letter some other time. I am as hearty as I have been for 10 years not quite as much better but stouter. Let me hear from you. Give my love to Uncle & Aunt, Mark Simon Michael & Annies, Uncle Harry & Ann. Herman & all Simon Wolf & Ann. Ever yours G. J. G.

Wages in my next I will give you a description
of Soldiers life, tents &c

Adrep your letter

How is your wife

Cap M. M. Spigel

*Boys?

Comp. C

I hear from home

By Reg. U. S. A

twice a week only

Par. Form.

when we change it

ya

Sometimes takes a week before we get a man
those are our hardest time

Give my respects to Joe Mohler, Geo Frank

Geo & Geo Bolander & all the Liberty
folks. I wrote to Wm Wise a few weeks

ago. Dont be mad when you hear some
time that I should be Major. Good night

no thing I hear Mary say

Chalvonnus: but if he were here he
could see things, which he can not find
in the best "Solo Herz" he ever played
give him my very particular respect

I have no Stamps & can not buy
any therefore have to let this letter
go unpaired paper no offense. Oh but
it rains, how glad I am to be comfort-
ably seated by my little Camp Stove
& can hear the rain beat against
my tent, without getting in
your night
write soon

I feel easy now, having written
to you

I just hear the off of the Guard
call.

3rd Relief fall out

ah ah

Paw Paw Feby. 19/62

My dear Brother Moses

I suppose you think I have forgotten you, but not so. There is not an hour passing but I think of you and frequently have I dreamed of you and very often in the day I see your form standing right before me; a friend as you have always been to me is not to be forgotten. I suppose you think "Why dit you not write then" but dear Moses in my new calling as a Soldier I really have so far had but very little time for me so as to recreate or even write to my friends. Thousand things to do and to attend drill and Parade, marching and countermarching, requisitions and descriptive lists, clothing accounts and Regimental orders and everything has to be attended to. You know I am a Captain of Company C, the Color Company of the 67th Regiment and I will now give you a little history of the past, present and future of my military life, if I do not break down.

When I went into the service I calculated on being Quarter-Master of the 45th Regiment which by order of the Adjutant General was consolidated with the 67th and the 67th formed, by which arrangement my Quartermastership of course knocked into a cocked hat, to the great displeasure of many of my friends, and [it] then rather chagrined me.

But since that I am not sorry as I think besides the Sutler there is no position outside of military in a Regiment that pays. Sutler must pay from \$50 to \$100 per day as they sell from \$100 to 300 per day at enormous prices and their money as sure as the State Railroad of Ohio whether the law protects them or not. I was home on a visit from 16th to 18th of last month and the day that I started for Uniontown I got a dispatch to join my Company forthwith as we had moving orders. When I returned to Columbus we left next day for Virginia in order to reinforce several Regiments who were in danger from an attack of the Rebel General Jackson. When we arrived at Benwood Va. The Ohio rose so rapidly that we had to run up hill about 2 miles and camp on a very nice slope of land along the banks of the grand Ohio River. We camped there 2 days when the River fell and the RR passable we were put in stock Cars and hurried on to New Creek, Va. where at that time there was a force of about 7000 Inf. 1200 Cav. & 6 guns of Artillery.

Before we were there a week there was a least 20000 Inf. 2000 Cav. & 60 Guns Art. there I acted for the first time as Brigade officer or rather Field officer of the day. I had to visit all the Pickets, outposts, Guard & C, transmit the Countersign & Parole and go out again once after 12 o'clock

at night having acted several times in that capacity in Camp Chase Columbus I knew all about it the only diff. is that when you gallop round at Va. there was a possibility of meeting an enemies Scouting party, while Camp Chase the severest thing you could meet was an Officer with a Bodle, We stayed at New Creek 10 or 12 days when we got orders to march to Pattersons Creek and report to Genl. Tyler (a friend of mine from Ravanah) and go with him to Romney to attack Col. Loring of the Rebel Army that night, but unfortunately something happened to the Engine & when we arrived at the place of rendezvous Tyler had left with his brigade. We layed in our Cars that night and the next night, the Cars being so extremely crowded and old freight cars at that, I preferred to try for the first time to wrap myself in my blanket and lay on the ground by a big fence Rail fire and I slept bully.

After the 2nd night we were ordered to pitch our tents and as in New Creek we pitched between the RR track & the Potomac we had just slept in our tents one night when the next day at 4 o'clock P. M. we rec'd Orders to march without knapsacks & only Blankets and 3 days Rations in our Havresacks. We started being ready in a short time (the Col. Compy) allways is and after marching 12 miles we were stopped about 1 mile from here where we expected an attack from the Enemy, slept on our arms and on the Snow for the Rest of the

night and next morning our Cav. Scouts ret'd. with the information the Enemy had fallen back to 8 miles from here. We then commenced fixing Pens of Rails covering them with Pine and Spruce brush which is plenty in this country and covering the ground with them we got along pretty comfortable but for Mars stern commands. [On February 10,] I was ordered on outpost picket Guard with my whole Company which I cheerfully done, as it was something I had not done in the service yet. Nothing occurred that night save a drunken [drunken] (I suppose) Aide-de-Camp party who endeavored to pass my Head Quarters by all means, when I got my 3 nearest Posts, 27 in number, and gave the Command: prime, ready, aim, when Mr. Aide-de-Camp and party [of] 8 on horses thought best to retreat, by first however saying, don't shoot we meant no harm. Next day I got Complimented by General Lander who commands this Division of the Potomac, by saying I, that is your humble servant, "Was the best Officer he had met since he took this command."

Three days we laid out that way when to our joy our Tents came, we pitched them Wednesday last and slept bully on Thursday at 3 o'clock in the afternoon we got Orders to march within an hour, with 3 days rations no Knapsacks only Blankets & overcoats & arms & 50 rounds of cartridges.

We left Camp at precisely 4 o'clock I had been quite unwell and had it not been that my motives might be assailed I should not have marched, as I was very unwell with the Headache of my worst kind and a severe cold all day. But I started and at the Head of my Comp. as we started for the first 4 miles the mud was fully knee deep a soft smashy ugly mud when however we got in the woods the snow had not melted all but was just going away. When after 6 miles over Va. Hills we came to a fork in the Road when we were ordered to take the left Road the 13th Ind. Regt. was ahead of us & several behind us we had marched on this Road over the awfulest roughest and highest mountain I had seen (except one which I will hereafter mention) about 6 miles when our Cavalery Col. Came galloping up & saw that the Rebels were retreating & we must cut off the retreat at the forks of the north River and the big Cacapon "about face", "march" was the order and we dit about face untill we came to the forks of the Road, where we filed left and left oblique & went it & such squirming picking out of Road & yet the best way, was the go straight through as it went up far above the thighs wherever one went. When I had crossed I turned to my Co. & screamed "the man that can not follow his captain is not worth having" going right in ahead of my Co. & the consequence was, my boys followed without breaking ranks, for

which we were praised by the whole Regt. After we got across we hid in bushes fixed a fire kept in line of Battle and waited for the enemy, but they having recd information from some source changed with ½ mile from us and when we came up, none safe the Cavlry got a chance to fight as they had the start & men moving, the Cavelry killed 43 took 56 prisoners among them a Col. and Adj. Genl 2 Capt & 12 Lieuts and wounded 48. We had 2 killed and 3 wounded.

It is late I am tired, it rains like h-l the Roads awfull & we are likely to be idle awhile. I will finish my letter some other time. I am as hearty as I have been for 16 years not quite as much better but stouter. Let me hear from you. Give my love to Oncle & Aunt, Marx, Simon, Michael & families, Oncle Hanz & family. Herman & all Simon Wholf & family.

Ever yours

Spiegel

Moses in my next I will give you a discription of Soldiers life, tents & c.

Address your Letter

Capt M. M. Spiegel

Comp. C

67th Reg, O.V.

Paw Paw, Va.

How is your wife & boys? I hear from home & C twiced a week only when we change it sometimes takes a week before we get a mail those are our hartest time. Give my respects to Jac Mohler Geo. Frank Fran & Geo Boleiver & all the E Liberty folks. I wrote to Wm. Wise a few weeks ago. Dont be mad when you hear some time that I should be major. Good night me thinks I hear Marx say. Chalomn, but if he were here he could see things, which he can not find in the best Solo Herz he ever played give him my very particular respect. I have not stamps & can not buy any therefore have to let this letter go unpaid hope no offence. Oh but it rains, how glad I am to be comfortably seated by my little Camp stove & can hear the rain against my tent without getting in.

Good night

Write soon

I feel easy now having written to you.

I just hear the off of the Guard call 3rd Relief fall out

AH ah.

Law. Town. Va Febry 19/62

My dear & good Wife!

Although I have not heard from you since I wrote to you last, nor have I anything new to report, yet it will I am satisfied be pleasing to you to hear from me again!

This has been an unpleasant day raining all day so much so that the ground is almost a foot deep in our Camp and our tent floor is covered with mud from the mud coming in with muddy Boots & Shoes.

Chapman & I get along about as well as any two "poor" folks could get along, we never yet quarrelled for, keep & but are all ways abusing each other for fun and as far as our view of sight of the other for 10 min. the other is on the hunt of the one. My Lieut Child is a very quite unassuming Christian Gentleman, very pleasant and a good fellow, of course my orderly Wiggins you know is a brist in discomt on him, we have together and right here I must "countermand" of what I said in my last about our good

"Grubb" Since Monday last we
did not live very fat, getting
tired of pickled Pork, we have
nothing but Rice, Coffee
& Crackers. Crackers, Coffee
and Tea. Our Quartermaster
has not been very frugal &
we feel as though we came
here to save our money & not
to spend it and I at any rate
feeling little desiring & desiring
what just as ~~leaves~~ without
meat a week

What are you doing? How
do you spend your time?
Are you in good spirits?
Is uncle Joseph in good
humor? if he is tell him
for my sake to be wide
awake and pleasant. I
feel badly as well as ever
I did and think this War
will improve me in two
Respects in the first
I can eat most anything
Even bread & Cabbage is first
rate in the Lid I think
I will not be half as
sore of a "Complainer"
but always good humor
if you agree to be

And spirit I feel well and
if only I hear once or
twice a week from you
all is right and if this
War would only give me
employment even in the
position I hold now ~~and~~
a year longer, I would have
about \$2000 of my own earning
subject to nobody and would
paid for and the Warhouse
partly and all would be
right. all is right anyway.
I would like to have you
safe all my letters I write
so as to show me something
of the War after it is over.
To night and prepensed is
coming back from Washington &
bring us intelligence in regard to our
Col. we all hope it may be doing
While I write to get comforted
by my little Shoe and a little
Camp Shoe presented to me by
Lt. Col. Davis it blows and
rains furiously out doors and
I pity the poor boys on Guard.
I have at present 12 of my
Boys sick in the hospital with
measles and mumps and about
I unfit for duty in the
Sents, Soldiering is hard some
times and more especially

of camp to you as it is now
at first, when they get handed
to Camp life, it is pleasant.

While you would go through our
Camp at this time so close P.M.
raining and blowing. You would hear
passing the tents laughing like every
thing, the fiddle, singing, I believe
probably all in one tent, showing
some fellow telling a funny story
half of the boys laughing like
every thing and the rest sleeping in
sweet repose, really it is so
strange, awfull and amusing.

What is my big son Hamlin doing?
Is he growing and learning? Does
he behave well? Did you tell
him to write to me? and about
his Pistol? How is my big
daughter Lizzie? Is she still
learning so fast? I know she
is a good child, because she
always was a good Daughter.
How is my sweet Ursey? Has he
forgot me? How is his eye?

I must quit or else I'll get some
sick. Tell uncle Jacey that I
had a very pleasant letter from
Chicago all right there.

Give Elizabeth my respects as also
Henry, John family and friends
and write to you ever true
Your affectionate
Uncle

Paw Paw, Va. Feby. 19/62

My dear and good Wife!

Although I have not heard from you since I wrote to you last, nor have anything new to report, yet it will I am satisfied be pleasing to you to hear from me again!

This has been an unpleasant day, raining all day, so much so that the mud is almost a foot deep in our camp and our tent floor is covered with mud from the many coming in with muddy Boots and shoes.

Chapman and I get along about as well as any two "mail" folks could get along. We never yet quarreled for "keeps" but are always abusing each other for fun and as soon as one is out of sight of the other for 10 minutes, the other is on the hunt of the one. My Lieutenant Childs is a very quiet unassuming Christian Gentleman, very pleasant and a good fellow. Of course my orderly Wiggins you know is a brick, no discount on him. We board together and right here I must "countermand" of what I said in my last about our good "Grubb". Since Monday last we dit not live very fat. Getting tired of pickled Pork, we have nothing but Rice, Coffee and Crackers, Crackers, Coffee and Rice. Our Quartermaster has not been very flush and we feel as though we came here to save our money and not to spend it and I at any case, feeling like dieting somewhat, just as leave do

without meat a week.

What are you doing? How do you spend your time? Are you in good Spirits? Is Uncle Joseph in good humor? If he is tell him for my sake to be wide awake and pleasant. I feel bodily as well as ever I dit and think this War will improve me in two respects. In the first, I can eat most anything; cornbread and cabbage is first rate. In the 2nd, I think I will not be half as much of a "Complainer" but always [in] good humor if you agree to be. In spirit I feel well and if only I hear once or twice a week from you all is right and if this War would only give me employment even in the position I hold now a year longer, I would have about \$2000 of my own earnings subject to nobody and loans paid for and the Warehouse partly and all would be right. All is right anyhow. I would like to have you safe all my letters I write so as to show me something of the War after it is over.

To night our messenger is coming back from Washington and brings us intelligence in regard to our Colonel. We all hope it may be cheering. While I write and sit comfortably by my little stove and a little camp stove presented to me by Lieutenant Colonel Voris, it blows and rains furiously out doors and I pity the poor boys on Guard.

I have at present 12 of my Boys sick in the hospital with

measles and mumps and about 8 unfit for duty in the tents.

Soldiering is hard sometimes and more especially at first; when they get hardened to Camp life, it is pleasanter.

While you would go through our Camp at this time 8 o'clock P.M., raining and blowing, you would hear passing the tents coughing like everything, the fiddle, singing, 3 cheers, probably all in one tent; snoring, some fellow telling a funny story; half of the boys laughing like every thing and the rest snoring in sweet repose. Really it is sad, strange, awful and amusing. What is my big son Hamlin doing? Is he growing and learning? Does he behave well? Dit you tell him to write to me? and about his Pistol? How is my big daughter Lizzie? Is she still learning as fast? I know she is a good child, because she allways was a good daughter. How is my sweet Mosey? Has he forgot me? How is his eye? I must quit or else I'll get homesick. Tell Uncle Josey that I have a very pleasant letter from Chicago all right there.

Give Elizabeth my respects as also Henry, Cohn & family and remember to write to your ever true and afecionate,

Marcus

Send me 50c worth of stamps

Par. Post. Pa Febry 25/1862

My dear dear Wife
& sweet children.

Your very good ^{of the 12th} letter I recd. some days ago and should have answered you this, but I supposed that I would get another one soon after that as I saw by your letter that you had not recd. I of my letters.

In the first place I was very much grieved to learn of my good boy Hamilton falling and straining his ankle but as I see in your kind letter, that it is not very bad I am in hopes it will be all right by this time, he ought to be careful, else he will have a lame ankle all the time and never make a good Soldier.

I say as your dear Wife I think the war will soon be ~~over~~ over, but I do not think we will be mustered out of Service very soon, neither do I care much, as long as I am paying \$125 per month, think that is about as well as a man can do, considering hard times

and would it not be for being
away from my family I
would not care if I would
have to stay 3 years, but I
am really getting to feel as
though I ought to go
home and see you, it would
be such a delight, nobody
can appreciate it, as I
could, I have not seen
but I families since I came
to the said both of them
were not very enviable.

I am in hopes, that I
can go home in April &
stay during Wool Season
as I have a very nice
"Family Arrangement" to re-
port, on which I am sure
our Commanding General
Gardner will excuse me &
grant me a furlough.

There has nothing of any
Military importance trans-
pired here since I have
written to you last, only
that there is an Order here
from the War Department
at Washington for the investi-
gation of the Charge against
our Colonel, the case is
examined once before a Military
Commission & they have reported

to Court martial him, so
far so good. By the way
We have a new Flag presented
to us by ~~some~~ the Ladies of
Cleveland, which the Com.
Genl. Lander, presented to our
Regt. on the 22nd with a
very nice Speech.

Our Bright and myself are
together almost daily and
I believe we enjoy our visits
pretty well.

I think I might as well tell
you, that I had the biggest
hile I ~~se~~ ever had, right in
the back of my neck, as big
as a hen Egg, it has been
punning down for 5 days &
the Core is not yet out,
My Lieutenants Chapman and
Childs have probed it regular
with Lances or ~~Flax seed~~ ~~poly~~
washed it twice a day with
Cast Steel Soap and I squeezed
it & ~~it~~ ~~has~~ just as good to me
as you ever saw, but before
it was open I was almost
homesick, they say it was
so much fun to squeeze it
as it ~~came~~ out. My Sporangal
It does not hurt me any
more, I am still attempting to
get the Core out

This is my day for "Officers of
the day" and it is now 11 o
clock in the eve and I will
soon have to make the guard
rounds and then go to bed.

We get paid the 2nd of March
so the Paymaster says this
Week and then I will send
you some money, as all that
is owed after I pay the money
in Bank. I want Brother
Joseph to hold on and not get
the "blues" as I will soon see
him; can he not get something
to do in Millerstown for a while.
I have no idea what we
leave here until the roads
get better, as they are too muddy
to move men, horses, or artillery.
I think you can not complain
of me now, as I write twice
every week.

Say to my good children that
you write me just as they hear
have and what they do & if it
is good it makes me feel so
good and love them so much, but if
it is bad, I do not like it a bit.
Hamlin ought to come first, all the
Lizzie is the first girl after Ma
since Hamlin is the first boy after
me and I am the oldest

That really tickled me, I had
to laugh over it yet in my
bed at night, as it seemed
so much like these Quarels.
You must not let Mosey
forget me, as I would feel
had if I should come home
and he not know me.

How is Henry Heizer getting along?
Joseph? B. Cohn? & all the
rest, I was very sorry to learn
in a letter of Mr. Dial to
St. Chapman to learn of my
old friend Chipman's death.
Dit the Methodist make
any impression on him before
he died? I do not care
if you do not write me any-
thing about the Millerbury News,
as I generally hear all that
is going on, only write me
about you, your my dear, the
children what they say & do
Uncle Joseph & Elizabeth, let me
know every little thing going
on in the family, every thing
write often and long loving
letters, you have no idea how
refreshing they are, to a Soldier
and more especially to such a
one as me, whose whole soul
~~left~~ the soul is home, home.
Sweet home.

If the mail comes in to
morrow and brings me no
letter from you, I shall be dis-
appointed. While I write on
my home made table, canted
which sleeps my boy, Chapman
is moving in and out, The
Sunday trotting up and down
in front of my tent although
late you can get had a good
many. Six of my boys
came home from the Hospital
well among them Jacob Gragley
the "goodman" I have yet 7 in
the "Cumberland Hospital" but all
are doing pretty well, but one
John Ammon is pretty sick.
By the way how is Mrs Ammon?
I wish you would find out ~~as~~
Mr Ammon can not get word
from her. Aint you getting tired
of getting such long, long letters
from me? Write often and long
letters, you can not write to
often - your letters are always a
good read. If uncle Joseph had
any rather, I commence corresponding
with him, just let him say so.
We are now getting daily mail.
Good night my love, my dear
my all, Remember yours
ever true husband

Wm. W.

Paw Paw, Va. Feby. 25/62

My dear Wife

and sweet children:

Your very good letter of the 12th I recd. some days ago and should have answered ere this, but I supposed that I would get another one soon after that as I saw by your letter that you had not recd 2 of my letters.

In the first place I was very much grieved to learn of my good Son, Hamlin's falling and straining his ankle, but as I see in your kind letter, that it is not very bad I am in hopes it will be all right by this time, he ought to be carefull, else he will have a lame ankle all the time and never make a good Soldier.

I say as you, dear Wife, I think the War will soon be over. Yet I do not think we will be mustered out of Service very soon, neither do I care much, as long as I am safing \$125 per month, think that is about as well as a man can do, considering hard times, and would it not be for being away from my family I would not care if I would have to stay 3 years, but I am really getting to feel as though I ought to go home and see you. It would be such a delight; nobody can appreciate it, as I could. I have not seen but 2 families since I came to Virginia and both of them were not very

sociable. I am in hopes that I can go home in April and stay during Wool season as I have a very nice "Family Arrangement" to report on which I am sure our Commanding General Lander will excuse me and grant me a furlough.

There has nothing of any military importance transpired here since I have written to you last, only that there is an Order here from the War Department at Washington for the investigation of the charges against our Colonel. We were examined once before a Military Commission and they have reported to court martial him, so far so good. By the way we have a new Flag presented to us by the Ladies of Cleveland, which the Commanding General Lander presented to our Regiment on the 22nd with a very nice Speech.

Dr. Ebright and myself are together almost daily and I believe we enjoy our visits pretty well.

I think I might as well tell you, that I had the biggest bile [boil] I ever had right in the back of my neck, as big as a hen Egg. It has been running now for 5 days and the core is not yet out. My Lieutenants Chapman and Childs have poltest [poulticed] it regular with Linseed or Flaxseed poltess, washed it twice a day with Cast Steel [castile] Soap and squeezed it and been just as good to me as you ever saw, but before it was open I was almost homesick. They say it was so much fun to squeeze it as it ran out by

spoonfulls. It does not hurt me anymore, I am still
poltessing to get the core out.

This is my day for "Officer of the Day" and it is now
11 o'clock in the Eve and I will soon have to make the "Grand
Rounds" and then go to bed. We get paid the 2nd of March
so the Paymaster said this week and then I will send you some
money, or all that is over after I pay the note in [the]
Bank. I want Brother Joseph to hold on and not get the
"blues" as I will soon see him. Can he not get something to
do in Millersburg for awhile? I have no idea that we leave
here until the Roads get better, as they are too muddy to
move men, horses, or artillery. I think you can not complain
of me now, as I write twice every week.

Say to my good children that you write me first as they
be have and what they do & if it good it makes me feel so
good and love them so much, but if it is bad, I do not like
it a bit. Hamlin ought to come first, although Lizzie is the
first girl after since Hamlin is the first boy after me and I
am the oldest.

That really tickled me, I had to laugh over it yet in my
bed at night, as it seemed so much like there Quarrels.

You must not let Mosey forget me, as I would feel bad if
I should come home and he not know me.

How is Henry Heizer getting along? Joseph & B Cohen & V

and all the rest, I was very sorry to learn in a letter of Mr. Dial to Lt Chapman to learn of my old friend Chipman's death. Did the Methodist make any impression on friend before he died? I do not care if you do not write me anything about the Millersburg News as I generally hear all that is going on; only write me about you, you my dear, the children what they say and do, oncle Joseph and Elizabeth. Let me know every little thing going on in the family, every thing; write often and long loving letters; you have no Idea how refreshing they are, to a Soldier and more especially to such a one as me, whose whole soul is home, home, Sweet home.

If the mail comes in to morrow and brings me no letter from you, I shall be disappointed. While I write on my home made table, under which sleeps my boy, Chapman is snoring in and Bed, the Sentry trotting up and down in front of my tent although late you can yet hear a good many things. 4 of my boys came home from the Hospital among them Jacob Grassley the Gentleman "I have yet of in the" Cumberland Hospital but all one doing well, but one John Ammon is pretty sick.

By the way how is Mrs. Ammon? I wish you would find out, as Mr. Ammon can not get word from her. Ain't you getting tired of getting such long, long letters from me? Write often and long letters, you can not write too often your letters are always a God send. If oncle Joseph has any rather, I

commence corresponding with him, first let him say so. We are
now getting daily mail. Good night my love, my dear my all,
Remember yours

Ever true husband

Marcus

