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

1862 March

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quitely we pass along, the Dans Julaying our Banned which is in my Company prombly and defiantly warning to am from Just the do of us we below dide the old town of Middle from which like Kearntonn wlongs ancient w beauty full Chrich of thiell has date 1817 on it. We are mon Sanch of Middle town and on the battle growing of yesterday between our and the Hebel Clockey in which my frein DEbught was pressent assocafe as we go up grite a little Hill me Lead the Trooming of the Courses James as 6 miles ahead of us to fright like an election Othain it goes through the lines with a Whentay the 12 od 14 ffegles which made the Earth Hake and the Heaven tremble. That was everyl for the Hogs I there was hone among them that felt tered

all wanted to go double quiase and fran me reached the lonn of Newton a rather Hambrone toma something like Middlebury only all in and offect clase togethe marching an lively are heard the downds which seemed to renew and thengthened the Bays every time two from come to Cedar Ocept with fruothing rines of a handsome Bridge which the Bebelo had but Shortly humer in Ower to detain eig, but the ingennity of and Teaders land Threw the Merins down the Geek fort hours and It so encount frugle file and no me wood hickly advancing an Show ling we ! recienced Orders to half about and how after night lay and and some and he ready to munch at a momento motion, being right tried I slept sommity as unal with my friend Chapman and at the breatl of day me . were called up, made some affer

in and Oni Cups and Stacked do incontra within I miles of Maushing no ever again halle and bedered to open I fanks as we had the advance in the More towards Whichester, we have to take the Bear this time and shall mot unles a hig hattle as a flanting movement contemplated not get in Very from les woo open pur Haxels a Courses Gallofil for with all the appearance of time thing up flow the tongles of the With ettery Sound the allauce, won the double Circle, how they gallip along as fast as the Houses can go 6 Hortes to a Camon furt in mayone to Camons with so Almontion Wagons a Horses to each galloping part while you head the Evenies batteries plays A. a distante Hill oposite guin they men human, the thingles Monaring the officers command and then I ask. Who wouldn't be a solvier

Oh it was truly grant, ah sublime indecel and if ever I live to fee the day that I am 80 years all I think, I can describe that Seem with arrimation, How the Carelery ruster part now the Hanks are closed and Batallion formand March is heart from om It Out Commaning forman Comp will Igago shart off with as much alacisty and aminoh as they wrated to a of they duly dance with a pretty Caroline Je Hamlin with them. Halt is now Commanded they Spelells Will throw then thells Cas Harmleff, at the Moderne which fall as hamles as the lexues of a beauty full fore afterit Las been timentine and Sweet. Now Cal four tegals wider up 45 see the Pehells, I started with him on a beg Hill where

and the top of which, to where I went stains and dable Gent Thields and Staff to Valle Imgade Commanders Cal de through Hasses watching the Morements of the Helles Hooleking Your Thield directing the advance of one men, the fichels are at a Hill eight of posite protecting I knowsking, now a shell busked in a hallow a great distance below us, now me see on attle advancing I Careley fallowing believed in the filels, win the Rebelg Dee their and pull up Takes now the Comman es given fallair up from me fush to and respective Commany of far wand march, and to Straishing we are now in the town a crooker Threeted all fashion thring a how now the Whele Canons are stell playing um through the low up the Mill, where the feliels was a little while ago, wor off the freke through a long Lane

up a Hill part a large brick Hause, through a Kom yand, up another Hill an the level wow and artillery is being planted an an elevetar turn Oin Ofrigade is drawn up in line - a Battle by divission I compo, I command the Centre as Color diviprain my Camp and Camp H. Oh how big I feel, now am little commences, boom, home board mire Rapid, the Spekels only unsues vacassionally, put non Gene Shields comes gally apassed and lines Command am Brigade to double quick down the Wish of a Sheep Hill of Printrees to cut off the reheating Rebels, nongby the right flank file left, double quick march "down down as fast as we can Pishe they the day rushes park

to get alead of as , now Collows is franching a high fend with his horse and ene follow, olvuble. quiel through a wheat field the hartest summy Dener done and now the Halls of the Mebels Camons are Ingging voer am Heads from Hell top to fill top Lookeet our ens, how and the Title again over a larger Som things which cropes the mouth Band of the Othersan doch River up a Hill, here bies 4 dead Houses, L'Caneley men are Carrying their daddles passed M, and of theen his ham blew, now on top of the Hill, mond Half & jest a libble, hom forman branch, fallow the is to fast for us, Larry the Shart and purious the Country une Could not calol them though we chased then

for I miles, the Infanty new getting a Chance to fire at them mee, night coming an me were ordered hastly to the by Home It's dye where we Camped in a meddow aside of the finer and in life them 1/4 of an hour the Gails a whole faur as faras the Eye dante see folks were camper and the fails tied my feet pund me who and though at was rather rough & Chilly I pulled my hopes and taked my feet for 20 minutes in the Hiner washed my face heall and I nearl after which I felt thelly. When I Come to Campagain it having comenced to rain Out Vous had build a Mail Jent covered en the our tuch Hankele, am a good coffee Cooked , and of my bays having been off and pressed 2 Chrellens Some Eggs & some flow.

unto the Clervice, I made a was bully after which I Oreft in the If ail pents and though et rained all might d'dit sout get den met short sleph he formed to a buy in a ling all wight, in the morning too dit not flow which way to march finally at ip part in the Own Carrie to march back to Unickested to an Camp, it blung I Amphose wit advisable to follow up faithe no the Kely might attack no in the Hear I cut off am chiply, the march hack to Camp was made within one Stop furk chinks marching 25 miles without stapping once In Ebright whom I met series times the day before passed soffered he his house which I refused, but Some very mice buriagnito with present through the middle I steepled . Col Vous afterwards insisted that 9 Should Ride his house awhile which I dit for I miles

We reached our Camp at your clock form thearty, though 110 my hoys fell hack tired out but all care in this morning Dean hear them all an a mane, In day I feel as though deouts march so miles, I take the hed kind of can of myself anceda nothing, but quitely faller The even bund of my duty, when ever it calls me. Many incident of a pleasing matrice through lam homewand march of 25 miles through a continuel, disshing rain happened which I intented to Chrowich to your link it henry lake allmost is a chase and dan an duty all day to mornon, I think best to close and with unite with to you again to morning the food wight my love, theff dream and awathe happing, may your life and that of all of us he a happy ane I may we be blessed soon anth the happiness of enjoying the together is the wint of your long hurhand Marcus I will were he to monor of ham

My dear dear wife & family!

I am happy to say to you that I rec'd. your kind Note through Mr. Dobbs and learned through him, that you are all well & happy.

Colonel Buerstenbinder is under Arrest for the last 4 days and I am satisfied he never will Command this Regiment again, charges preferred against him (which will be proofen) are sufficient to close out any man from commanding Ohio Boys for ever after and to bring about this State of affairs, that is, getting him under arrest I tried my best and done all I could honorably and am happy to say success crowned our efforts and the Regiment I have no doubt will be reliefed from the weight of carrying along an incompetent officer.

We returned last night from a 3 day march to Strousburg [Strasburg] which was believed and reported to be a strongly fortified "Rebel Hole", but we were successful in driving them out and chased them 5 miles South towards Woodstock and as I took some notes in the field, you will permit me to give you them just as they are and if they seem a little enthusiastic, you must pass on them and make allowances that they were taken by a Captain proud and

elevated by the noble Spirit of the Boys under his command and at the moment of the Excitement of the Battlecry. This is Friday morn. Monday Eve we received Marching Orders, that is, to cook 3 days rations and be ready to march without Blankets in 3 hours. Consequently, the Boys commenced cooking. I layed down in the Tents of the Boys and thought as my boy was preparing my rations and my Blankets were Rolled and buckled, my Sword sharpened and my Revolver loaded I would enjoy the 3 hours in sweet repose. Had not been fairly down, but I was sound asleep and the first time I turned round and opened my Eyes it was just daybreak.

I jumped up some what bewildered, thinking I had overslept myself and the Boys probably moved, but it was only for a moment; looking around I saw all my Boys soundly asleep, being however so near day I stayed up and shortly after that Reveillee beat, the Boys arose, Roll was called and it was then ordered to be ready to march by 10 o'clock. Hurrah for Strasburg was the happy response of everybody, after Stone Wall Jackson, the Bold Rebel General, and a true Soldier Spirit was shown all along the lines of the different Camps as far as the Eye could reach. The Cavelery was trotting briskly, the Artillery was moving, Infantry was passing along the pike in front of our Camp and everybody seemed to be alive for the task before them. We all felt, that if we can

catch Jackson, we can whip him and his forces. At last the time came when our gallant Boys were led out commanded by our noble and highspirited Lieutenant Colonel Voris.

Never before dit the 67th make so good an appearance as on that day; the Boys all felt that they had somebody who had a Soul and sufficient quantity of Brains to lead them.

We were drawn up in line and as our Brigade Commander Colonel Kimball of Indiana, a Gentleman and a Soldier (and by the way a warm friend of mine) passed us, he complimented us highly and we felt proud.

At 10 precisely we started; passed on through
Winchester, a City which has a regular Old Country City
appearance like Worms, which lay full of Soldiers of Banks
division, which look as though they came just out of a Ben
[Band] Box, not having to share any of the hardships, that
we had to go through with, but were comfortably quartered all
winter.

Since I have written the first sheet, I received your very kind and lovely letter from the 10th and that of my big Son as well as that of my dear Brother and one from Cousin Mose Joseph one from friend Cohn all of which I read over 3 times except the first which I read with renewed pleasure and comfort such should the letters from home be and in fact such have they been all the times sweet and encouraging and allways pleasant to me allthough

they have at times shown a little of the prevailing blues, yet they are nevertheless pleasing and the only true refreshments I desire while away from home, I am contented and willing to do my duty, make & seek no acquaintances, only pay visits to my friends Voris, Grieve no body's good will and am not anxious to have enemies, gain the Respect of my superior officers as fast as get acquainted with them except Col. B. of our Reg. who is a Roshe and whom thank God I have laid out, he undoubtedly thinks by this time it would have been better for him, to let me alone. Only yesterday Dr. Ebright whose Regt. now belongs to our Brigade has told me that our Acting Brigadier Gen'l. Kimball thinks there is no Officer in the Brigade like me, he thinks I am just right and on a March, though he has 6 Reg'ts. Under him, he comes every hour or so & right along side of me, this may seem like flattery and self praise but I know you like to hear it.

I am sure he will grant me a furlough to go home through the Mos. Of May, then I want to get home and see you all & have a long long time.

I will write to night to severall woolhouses to get a Commission.

I will now continue my march as we passed through the City of Winchester we received the hearty cheerings of the Soldiers stationed there, but the female Citizens (and that

is about all there is left as the male Citizens in this

Country have all been pressed or volunteered in the Rebel

Service) dit not seem to relish our advance much, as

undoubtedly they feared we might not use their father,

Husbands, Brothers, or Lovers very kind, should we meet them

on the way.

We halted the first time about 4 miles South of
Winchester near 2 of the finest looking Mills I have seen
yet in this Country. It looked for all the World like
Millheim near Abenheim, everything around the Mills and the
splendid growth, like Chicago. And the strangest of all, the
proprieters were the strongest Union folks, who had fled
and just returned and then for the first time around
Winchester dit the Ladies wave white Handkerchiefs.

After resting and refreshing ourselves we started on a merry march; the day was all that could be wished for, warm and pleasant, and those Virginia Pikes are like our European Chausee [roads] as even and regular as a floor. We then passed through the town of Kernstown of the same shape like most of these towns on the Pike: as long as the moral Law, only one Street along the Pike; the regular old fashion Post towns, 2 Or 3 Stage offices or Hotels. About 1 mile South of the town after passing the nicest Country in America, we came to a plantation which so took me by surprise for its beauty and

the Palace it had in its Center struck me so with Admiration that I had to stop and make a minute [memorandum] and from that time commenced my field Notes.

Mrs. Southworth's beautiful Tales located in the Valley of the Shenandoah and the Rapehanick [Rappahannock] in which we thought she stretched a good deal, are daily coming to my mind as we pass through here. Just now we came passed a most grand looking building which would I think fill the description of the mansion of Capitola's Oncle whose name I forgot. The House is large, of Ionic Architecture, [a] finished Mansion of Solid Stones to which Miss Sumner's House near Middlebury or Sam Thomlin's would only be outbuildings in comparison. The front is supported by heavy Corinthian Pillars and the Windows and Bay Windows of a Gothic Structure. The broad Alley, through an Arched Gate leading, with the Gigantic old Weeping Willows on each Side, the Zink Roof which in the Sun looks like Crystal, and the handsomely finished Hot Greenhouses in front give the beholder an Idea that some Count must live there, or rather hold his sway over the 4 or 500 Blacks who reside in their quarters some distance from the Palace which looks a great deal like the Herrnsheimer Schloss I told you so frequent about. Marching along now as we do in a fine Spring afternoon, on the left of us we be-hold the beautiful "Blue Ridge" Mountains,

which have a Picturesque appearance as they show themselves in a Mountain chain as fair and blue as the Sky in Italy; you behold to our right the Alleghenies as far as the Eye can reach. Quitely we pass along, the Bands playing, our Banner which is in my Company proudly and defiantly waving to our front. Just ahead of us we behold now before us on a Hill side the old town of Middletown which like Kernstown is long and ancient. A beautyful Church of Brick has [the] date 1817 on it. We are now South of Middletown and on the battle ground of yesterday between our and the Rebel Cavelery in which my Friend Dr. Ebright was present and captured a Rebel Flag and just now, as we go up quite a little Hill, we hear the Booming of the Cannons some 5 or 6 miles ahead of us and just like an electric Strain it goes through the lines with a Shout of the 12 or 14 Regiments which made the Earth shake and the Heaven tremble. That was enough for the Boys, there was none among them that felt tired. All wanted to go double quick and soon we reached the town of Newtown, a rather Handsome town, something like Middlebury only all in one Street close together. Marching on lively we heard the Sounds which seemed to renew and strengthened the Boys every time. We now came to Cedar Creek with smoking ruins of a hand-some Bridge which the Rebels had but shortly burned in Order to detain us, but the ingenuity of our Leaders soon threw the

ruins down the Creek, put boards on it and so we crossed single file and as we were briskly advancing on Strousburg we received Orders to halt about an hour after night, lay on our arms and be ready to march at a moments notice. Being right tired I slept soundly as usual with my friend Chapman and at the break of day we were called up, made some Coffee in our Tin Cups and started. As we came within 2 miles of Strousburg we were again halted and ordered to open Ranks. As we led the advance in the move towards Winchester, we have to take the Rear this time and shall not unless a big battle or a flanking movement [is] contemplated get in very soon. As we open our Ranks a Courier gallops past with all the appearance of something up. Now the Bugles of the Artillery sound the Advance, now the double quick; now they gallop along as fast as the Horses can go, 6 Horses to a cannon. Just imagine 40 Cannons with 80 Ammunition Wagons, 6 Horses to each, galloping past while you hear the Enemies batteries playing at a distant Hill opposite yours, the men hurraing, the Bugles Sounding, the officers commands and then I ask, Who wouldn't be a Soldier? Oh it was truly grant; Oh sublime indeed and if ever I live to see the day that I am 80 years old, I think, I can describe that Scene with animation. Now the Cavelery rushes past; now the Ranks are closed and, Battalion forward March, is heard from our Lieutenant Colonel

Commanding; forward Company C repeated by me, and my noble Boys start off with as much alacrity and animation as they would to a 4th of July dance with a pretty Caroline F. Hamlin with them. Halt is now commanded. The Rebels still throw their Shells which fall as harmless as the leaves of a beautiful Rose after it has been lucritive and sweet. Now Colonel Voris rides up and asks me whether I want to see the Rebels. I started with him on a big Hill where on the top of which, to where I went, stands our Noble General Shields and Staff, our and other Brigade Commanders, Colonels and so forth, through Glasses watching the movements of the Rebels and watching General Shields directing the advance of our men. The Rebels are at a Hill right opposite protecting Strousburg; now a shell bursted in a hallow a great distance below us. Now we see our Artillery advancing and Cavelery following, between us and the Rebels; now the Rebels see them and pull up stakes. Now the Command is given, follow up; now we rush to our respective commands. Forward march, on to Strousburg. We are now in the town, a crooked Streeted old fashion kind of a town; now the Rebel Cannons are still playing. Now through the town, up the Hill, where the Rebels was a little while ago; now off the pike through a long Lane up a Hill, past a large brick House, through a Barnyard, up another Hill, on the level; now our Artillery is being planted on an elevation; now our

Brigade is drawn up in line-o-Battle by division [of] 2 Companies; I command the Centre or Color division, my Company and Company H. Oh how big I feel. Now our Artillery commences, boom, boom, more rapid; the Rebels only answer occasionally. Just now General Shields comes galloping apassed our line, commanding our Brigade to double quick down the Side of a Steep Hill of Pinetrees to cut off the retreating Rebels. Now "by the right flank file left, double quick march" down, down as fast as we can get and just as we get on the Pike the 7th Indiana rushes past to get ahead of us. Now Colonel Voris is jumping a high fence with his horse and we follow, double quick through a wheat field, the hardest running I ever done; and now the Balls of the Rebels Cannons are Buzzing over our Heads from Hill top to Hill top, 200 feet over us. Now on the Pike again, over a large Stone Bridge which crosses the north Branch of the Shenandoah River, up a Hill. Here lies 4 dead Horses; 2 Cavelery men are carrying their Saddles passed us, one of them his hand bleeding. Now on top of the Hill; now Halt and rest a little. Now forward march, follow up the fleeing foe, but he is too fast for us, having the Start and knowing the Country. We could not catch them though we chased them for 5 miles; the Infantry never getting a chance to fire

at them once. Night coming on, we were ordered back to the big Stone Bridge where we camped in a meddow aside of the River and in less than 1/4 of an hour the Rails of a whole farm [vanished]; as far as the Eye could see folks were camped and the Rails had dis- appeared. I felt pretty tired; my feet hurt me some and though it was rather rough and chilly, I pulled my boots and soked my feet for 20 minutes in the River, washed my face, neck and Breast, after which I felt Bully. When I came to Camp again, it having commenced to rain, Colonel Voris had built a Rail Pen and covered [it] with our Rubber Blankets, and a good Coffee cooked. One of my boys having been off and pressed 2 Chickens, some Eggs and some flour into the Service, I made a Chicken Zweishel [?] Soup which was bully after which I crept in the Rail pen and though it rained all night I dit not get very wet, but slept as sound as a bug in a Rug all night. In the morning we dit not know which way to march. Finally at 1/2 past 10 the Order came to march back to Winchester to our Camp; it being I suppose not advisable to follow up farther as the Rebels might attack us in the Rear and cut off our Supply. The March back to Camp was made without one stop; just think, marching 25 miles without stopping once. Dr. Ebright whom I met several times the day before, passed and offered me his horse which I refused, but

some very nice buisquits with preserves through the middle I excepted. Colonel Voris afterwards insisted that I should ride his horse awhile which I dit for 2 miles.

We reached our Camp at 7 1/2 o'clock sound and hearty, though 11 of my Boys fell back tired out but all came in this morning. I can beat them all on a march. To day I feel as though I could march 50 miles. I take the best kind of care of myself, overdo nothing, but quietly follow the even tenor of my duty, where ever it calls me. Many incidents of a pleasing nature through our homeward March of 25 miles through a continuel drizzling rain happened which I intended to chronicle to you but it being late allmost 12 o'clock and I am on duty all day to morrow. I think best to close and will write to you again to morrow.

Good night my love, sleep, dream and awake happily, may your life and that of all of us be a happy one & may we be blessed soon with the happiness of enjoying it together is the wish of your loving husband

Marcus

I will write to morrow of house affairs.

Minchenter Va March 22/18 Marker Hambingth of piegel Miss I office of My good love t Children.

Jestenday Irearened
the searened letter from my dear Son Hambin and Since I them that you can not all of your write get I thought het to fond your all one letter in Partnership which be longs to you all, I will Jan very happy under that your dear mother alloways sombles and

Such good news of everyone of your if whe would have to complain of you I covered feel very body but I alloways Knew that I had first as good Children as there was in the world. I was in a Table 3 days ago and the Common my head but me but me, the good Land fire and of your will only he right good Children mind well and pray to the good Lord I trust down to bee you all well and hearty. Mother with, to me that your all ston unce and learn fant

which I hope you will continue to do Good buy, my dear Children may the Tout Keep you in good health is the the Trincerest wind of your Factor who loves you dearly When I come home Jan furt firel presents

My good childen Hamlin, Liggie Sellorey Hellusburg Co. of hery, my dea

Master Hamlin M. Spiegel

Miss Lizzie T. Spiegel

Master Moses M. Spiegel

My good sweet children:

Yesterday I received the second letter from my dear Son
Hamlin and since I know that you can not all of you write yet, I
thought best to send you all one letter in Partnership which
belongs to you all.

I am very happy indeed that your dear mother always writes me such good news of everyone of you. If she would have to complain of you I would feel very bad, but I always knew that I had just as good Children as there was in the world. I was in a Battle 3 days ago and the Cannon Balls were flying over my head but none hurt me; the good Lord preserved me from any harm and if you will only be right good Children, mind well and pray to the good Lord, I trust soon to see you all well and hearty. Mother writes to me that you all grew nice and learn fast which I hope you will continue to do.

Good buy, my dear Children; may the Lord keep you in good health is the sincerest wish of your Father who loves you dearly.

M. M. Spiegel

When I come home I will try and bring you just such presents as you want.

My good children

Hamlin, Lizzie & Moses

Millersburg

Holmes Co.

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Minchested Va March 22/62 My boely Wife and dear Challund Though only this morning? Mailed a letter of 5 Sheets full of the details of one march and fight at officely yet I feel it imperative as well as pleasing to embrace an offseturity like this where a letter cain be taken to your by my fuel the (it person, of only for the purpose of Daying to your that I dearly land your and that at allmost malles me feel angry to think (De Chieght can go home and See his falls and that I can not. get if I was to try I think ten Krinhal would let me go but you Know it would not be fromment for me to go how as I could probably Stay a monther so I want to go about the latter part of Upril and stay a month or more. I feel good and we happy as a morresu he under the Circumstances of being away from those whom he loves dearly

My position is perpetable and homen able , I have the feepert of all Who know me, and loved by my Hoys and feel as though I had the good wisks of many a fine besides my relatives at home and ahrad. The position pay and my chance for promotion with influential Quends here to back the is fait though I will not freeze Et, I could to day take the Bunt. markership of om hey Chough it is not a position long dangerous yet & will not Exact it, ix I would take any bufines forthern by the army, it should be lidy Den so 120 de Dante Muster an Oluttle, but an the whole if I shay in the army I shall from my chances as you my dear wife and for you my good touther to Keep up Sprits for a little while an just get dishearlend it griese

my soul to hear your down headest You have no occasion for it, I and doing the best for all offine and if Doseph only keeps as for 30 del longer I set him last light of them I can and be the the the the the Millerting Exther, frust cheer up my hay, dent get du heartened and for a hort time disspell the dam blues is you will be all right. The letter my big don mite me made and feel happy & wish he would write often and as I have only this week written a letter to am I am in hopes that he will not think hard of me for mit winting to print as soon as I worte if I had more time, the Ebright will I doubt not tell you all about my mode of living as well as ornamy atter things that may be of Inherest to you and as there is a strong probability of his returning here again Soon I hope to find and allabout you and all of you

Yem, Deegle desires me to ear to you to tell his falls that he is well and doing well and littles his from him well, he is as hearly and as well as above the and as Janey as dely news kay, he is Still with Cal Vosis though I think after Whiting find a long letter I do not desin to weary your gratience with another long one and therefore close with the Hope that by this time your have real all my letters that I have millen feares Markinshing & Minickester der a by fight and come and Inchorano de shall send you a dispaled imedially after will be pleasing to que Hementer Jam Ener line land lowing Marcus

My lovely Wife and dear Children
My good Brother!

Though only this morning I mailed a letter of 5 sheets full of the details of our march and fight to Strassburg yet I feel it imperative as well as pleasing to embrace an opportunity like this where a letter can be taken to you by my friend the Dr. in person, if only for the purpose of saying to you that I dearly love you and that it allmost makes me feel angry to think Dr. Ebright can go home and see his folks and that I can not.

Yet if I was to try I think Gen'l Kimbal would let me go but you know it would not be prudent for me to go now as I could probably stay a month or so I want to go about the latter part of April and stay a month or more. I feel good and as happy as a man can be under the Circumstances of being away from those whom he loves dearly.

My position is respectable and honorable. I have the Respect of all who know me, am loved by my Boys and feel as though I had the good wishes of many a friend besides my relatives at home and abroad. The position pays and my chance for promotion with influential Friends here to back me is fair, though I will not press it. I could to day take

the Quarter Mastership of our Regiment; though it is not a position very dangerous, yet I will not except it. If I would take any business position in the Army, it should be Adjutant General or Brigade Quarter Master or Sutler, but on the whole if I stay in the Army longer than Spring, I think I shall run my chances as a Soldier. I only wish for you, my dear wife, and for you, my good Brother, to keep up Spirits for a little while and not get disheartened; it grieves my soul to hear you down hearted. You have no occasion for it; I am doing the best for all of you and if Joseph only keeps up for 30 days longer I set him all right. I know I can and he need not leave Millersburg either; just cheer up my boy, dont get disheartened and for a short time dispell the darn blues and you will be all right. The letter my big Son wrote me made me feel happy. I wish he would write often and as I have only this week written a letter to him, I am in hopes that he will not think hard of me for not writing to him as soon as I would if I had more time. Dr. Ebright will I doubt not tell you all about my mode of living as well as many other things that may be of Interest to you and as there is a strong probability of his returning here again soon I hope to find out all about you and all of you.

Henry Biegel desires me to say to you to tell his folks that he is well and doing well and likes his position well, he

is as hearty and as well as a buck and as saucy as a N.Y. newsboy, he is still with Col. Voris though I think some of taking him myself.

After writing such a long letter I do not desire to weary your patience with another long one and therefore close with the hope that by this time you have recd. all my letters that I have written from Martinsburg & Winchester.

If ever I have been in a big fight and come out victorious
I shall send you a dispatch imediately after the Battle which I
know will be pleasing to you.

Remember your ever true and loving,

Marcus

Minchester Va March 26/600 Medinesday

My dear dear Wije !

This We my Elegiapher to game

this We my Bloody Batch to and I now ony to get that the anost terrible solvenly fight at Buttle was frught here from Falenday En untill Immlay darle which has been faught in the history ef this Campayne as a bell I meseican & the deline. day in the History of the W. J. Suturday at 3 P.m les tud errece matting wat ful Dress Charle Just as my they brought in some Ries dans the an Orderly was brought gallafring in but a Come to the Cot love in less than 2 minutes the doing that beat & The Horning of Camera war

Cand in I minutes onever and Gallant little by the an it way double Domicil to offmake from which place in were from seen in order toy cake When we amind when the Shills was one were the fint Infanty theyte That I preparted charle therefore were feed to a past of hours as oppositions It deplayer to the left of the Piller when in the accompates playing the brekets glys es and entry a Moiley of Bombehells as we pell you have no dela deseral of the shells proved right Townsh my Compy The Bago Ling Beto com fell dund unon man hand I must wing info the defails can

D' timply say too advanted That might entitle dock when and laid dans within fine a Blanket as any the a to late In the Mond we said break the Battle Comence and we core arigner the I home to position of Insperding Dame Coletrated Buttery of Regular them with about it were ordered to make an Soft they along to the and with first rapidely, they well supporter from Line by three wall ferrees Jened Baricades , And the 13 of my the land of Jacobs of Danas of Danas of Jones The Series Daysel had the miferialphy dagen by the latter we engaged by also the 42 Va Bugh for I have it was a segulor how to have fight duith the man to paper & homefull Thurshites a dei charge of soos to love Refler continually would tathe a diff man to descuy Ine for how that I ever searcely hear any men but I lead the Boys, my whole gallans Boys to Wiele the the was the first By the that drawn the Every and of his per-Sition Ithan in diane them from posipane to Spesition, all my days Ef cept I fante mobily dofond the ground as well as all Telerams

Town of my gallans Bys Port Tear & John For ful dead on the dattle field J. L. Odice, Izidore Hagle I Alex Lang were Dereck wonder but not mit tally Josoh Dayler after fighting all day fell down in I have his three Levy by Colone Head a Shell hursted is former hat sick from the gain, throthe Escaped embruk We dead fining after daill , not laving anything to eat all day having her Islanded & not throwing hum fan the levery were from no dit unt lace Ito make any fries lain down I hem, to cold we Counted mort olers so and of us boother over the Stattle field after and person

charing me lights we could mys do any things, though this came in the winder The Late truck decenes. describe them durite monte a letter fan efan an san and get werker which you can puttink in the farmer the day break that have an the position If the true wood accordance wo assaules then droves Them back chaired their 14 miles linght came an my halted of them and our gat Comething to lake from Saturday might tell Morning might truesday at (day theat wo follows Then drove them hack of far 13 miles when in came parter felaces to hen they left deal score bourney tents they was to

Thomas they were attacked Thines but flas to dela dearing account only thing thehing there Jamay there were free from Hilled It 12 on warming Ween thispanion Imash Or Om Wide furhable Ist Killer H to son warden the full dent from the formand Hent Shill getting his len hadly I hattered by a Hell I Thursday Find Bankla was in Command . We capture I'd The grennies dans The Stelets funds Omning lifte Fixer hand The Short Bays and borned to wing

ast might I went to Gent Bunk, to get permission to come here I Hook after my dead & wound The stroke Hands with me & Said A ah your Brys fough nothy, I am well, well please Wiggins Corps & send home in can of Il Mayors, The other are Idecently buried & the wounder and fafely lather can their Jung mell.

I got hew last might at day my Buys Voffices an the noblest Romans in The world that blep them It Col. Vois laker whom In mobiles thrance man lives is slightly commended in the leg June hogy Sand blefo gow, man when El har a fittle vest Saturday before the Battle

My dear dear wife!

I have telegraphed to you this A.M. Bloody Battle &c and I now say to you that the most terrible & bloody fight as Battle was fought here from Saturday Eve untill Sunday dark which has been fought in the history of this campayne and as old Mexican & other Soldiers say in the History of the U.S. Saturday at 3 P.M. as we were making ready for Dress Parade & just as my Boy brought in some Rice Soup an Orderly was galloping in brot a Dispatch to Lt. Col. Voris in Comd. & in less than 2 minutes the long Roll beat & the booming of cannons was and in 5 minutes more our Gallant little 67th on its way double Quick to Winchester from which place we were send out on the Pike & run in order to catch up to support our Battery. When we arrived where Genl Shields was we were the first Infantry Regt. that reported itself therefore were send to a post of honor as skirmishers & deployed to the left of the Pike when in the act of deploying the Rebel spyed us and such a Volley of Bombshells as we recd you have no Idea several of the shells passed right through my company the Boys seeing them come fell down and none were hurt. I must not go into the details now.

I simply say we advanced that night untill dark when we laid down without fire or Blanket or any thing to eat. In the Morn at day break the Battle comenced and we were assigned the honorable position of supporting Dammis Celebrated Battery of Regulars. They shelled us & we shelled them untill about 12 o clock afternoon, when we were ordered to make an Infantry charge, which we dit charging on them with the such rapidity, they however standing their well supported positions by stone wall fences & fenced Barricades, such a firing by our Regt the 13 & 14th Ind. 5.7. & 8 & Oh, the 84th & 110th Pa & retd. by 3 Brigades of Jaccson Loring & other Irish Brigades and this Mississippy Tyger by the latter we engaged also the 42nd Va Regt. for 3 hours it was a regular hand to hand fight with the most rapid & powerful Musketry a discharge of 8000 to 10000 Rifles continually would take a dif man to describe.

The Bullets whizzed around me for hours that I could scarcely hear any more but I lead the Boys, my noble & gallant Boys to victory the 67th was the first Regt that drove the Enemy out of his position & then we drove them from position to position, all my Boys except 3 fought nobly & stood the ground as well as old Veterans. Lt. Col. Voris led our Boys to Battle.

Four of my gallant Boys Orderly Wiggins, N.F. Geisler,
Robert Tear & John Fox fell dead on the Battlefield. I.L. Rice,
Isidore Hagle & Alex Lang were severely wounded but not mortally

Jacob Degler after fighting all day fell down & hurt his knee.

Leroy G. Osborn by whose Head a Shell bursted is somewhat sick

from the Jaw, the others escaped unhurt.

We seased firing after dark & not having anything to eat all day, having no Blankets & not knowing how far the Enemy were from us dit not dare to make any fires laid down & being to cold we could not sleep so much of us looked over the Battlefield after our friends having no lights we could not do anything, though they came with torches & carried the wounded. Oh, God, such scenes. I do not now want to describe them. I will write a letter far often as soon as I get rested which you can publish in the Farmer. At day break, & as soon as the position of the Enemy was ascertained we attacked them drove them back chased them 14 miles, night came and we halted & then only we got something to eat from Saturday night till Monday night. Tuesday at Day Break we followed them drove them back & for 13 miles when we came passed places where they left dead & wounded burning tents & wagons &c Monday they were attacked 3 times but fled, Tuesday morning once they were leaving almost everything behind them.

Sunday there were probably from 700 to 800 Secessionists Killed & 1200 wounded 600 prisoners.

On our side probably 250 killed, 4 to 500 wounded the $84^{\rm th}$ Pa, $67^{\rm th}$, $8^{\rm th}$, & $5^{\rm th}$ Oh, 14 Ind suffered most. Sunday Col. & Acting

Brig. General Kimbal has comanded Genl Shields getting his Arm badly shattered by a shell Saturday night. Monday & Tuesday Genl Banks was in command. We captured 5 of the enemies Guns.

The Rebels fought Sunday like Tigers but the Union boys are bound to win.

Last night I went to Genl Banks to get permission to come here & look after my dead & wounded. He shook hands with me & said "Ah, your Boys fought nobly. I am well, well pleased."

Wiggins Corps I send home in can of L. Mayers. The others are decently buried & the wounded are safely taken care & doing very well.

I got here last night at 12 & go back to the Comp. today.

My Boys and Officers are the noblest Romans in the world. God

bless them Lt. Col Voris their whom no nobler & braver man lives

is slightly wounded in the leg but on duty.

Good bye. God bless you, more when I had a little rest.

Your

Marcus

I enclose some letters I wrote Saturday before the Battle which I wanted to know send home by Ebright who can not leave now.

Thanking 10 March 30/52 My clear clear good Wife my since Children My with Brithe J willing Structury was the tout time I have been in the west fragall a buttle jought in the History of Unercan Halles, I was just with as I was delling de man la commerca de lellie la you and loved and and if I tell you that it wought a change in my Section from a rather dull an La little thursel to a gay une rapy Journey I till gen only, that Work It Chegaman, Childry Coderly Halliell and my lity echo ace all writing in my lent, have been barne me about continue they day that the four & Theme. Aloun which has been tuging me here to duct and Eftend that the high and dry place of yesterday wa winday Comp to day, is all at ence turned to bright. sunstine at present, theregh we an all writing by carrelle bight the great fight feel my self as y od bully and all the between acc

pression on me is not to be evened like a dream, I throw however that I have a quelled my self la the full Satisfaction of all, I was seit in the least Dearch, but Lungelie and Cook, lulling care of myself to much as I printly Could evilant healtersty Effering myself I was here and there are every where , ever maging all my Hayor Alemy there all, leading then in frent at every whange of position proces hiding unp delp frequently leving at the hellest places and a many, many well ained bullet whigged framed my head veloce by my body Everytoken but thought to gud our bearing feether I came ent of it without accome a donately our Banner which was allways in my company receive I toullets, the first passed things it not I make the my head where the Colors were promotly truing right our me, dans well should and the just that my Company has If Milled west of 9 in the bjeg to und & levended duty 47 a zuffin

ledelingy anythe that en are grathing beys and en front I funt think that I have a lat of the millest hay a that ever shouldered a smithet by Girdinante and the right men in the right places, comagions beare am beat, three of my Dorgeants Halliak, Binecan Homman are Hongo with whom I challenge the wield they were as gay and pleasant un young woman at a line party, Malliel & appointed tridity on the field of Ballle though by the regular family Jumetion of belonged to Down who shortly after the fight commen must his by the claims by getting the salleful denne from the Ballefule wind dit sort from the spector of the fight, and & believe in unaching mont, not Mank. Cafe Fred that very lawrence and Interesting Captain that I wich you about source of the pust once Mittely it would be a last for the to describe to your by Expressiones of the Salle feels wet words ment lillely not unferen your gove chains of timbeling, and I between I will wast untill

My golling brood in thing in where a giful fact, all said show a good ofming me that they dan not refuse it I arrelige tome to money of a cleaning that as day I have me derne logo and leave again fruit the line when I troube mit min hering at home for a Colomelship The aucht by the let will umbontery lead to his dissemple of from the Dervice which will made It in bal, with the Capit of the of Major, the capt of the house dead with math me Capit Co et in device Capt, in the Heaft of such to from the Frield Officer of the changes transferred to which luc de frequent gives une a gole ! charge , however I will not Day willed get home no d de me feel little deciding entill after I have sun your alle Tresday might I left here and wrote Horsebrath 24 hinter to rece my wounded thay and booth often very death ones all of which I found burned let odaly llegen who the they board they had thent for ours from the whom dreet to they where he has encoulded

corred and had been berned, when I would like to hear in your not It is said that the whom the good Cover, gradually for getter was to it duning there they the they have muce up Cheir times y that Tripling might breedy they in Cours and when at They is turned the last of the fallen heroes, the are assuming their all gary to again thing a me cut up as much as over and older when a manie of one of the faller beebles is munhimes your came the a spread of Gloom for I have not yet fregatter Sof my very hert bays who I day sugar were as gay as any are no more that yet trice I get from letter I good as thong I could enjoy a got fathe right hearty , first think how much I will have to lett you when I come home! Then in an infull Butter first think of the wrack of a continue Muntheting of form 15 to 16000 Juns, the Camer maring, the Carelley duthing, the then yelling and overy thing does Cant I tell your It method Ill bet I want tell you as in

as you conti ever if you would go as for us thouser any your their in you allways see beby I have just made up my min that I will have as much to tell you as Marshall am Dally wonts of they wonto ride from Line to Thrilling in a Buggy and you linn that is a grandeal. Tell Hamber that he want he a good Son am I will tell from all whom t the hig fight how I seen a What with a fast in that aff by a Camon Bull & lots more also Lizzie I home a great deal to tell her will lots of pully things to being her as well as for translin and turing, oh but I reject to see the frue when I can lake their and my lap ain wis them, but time fluis so fact her morning & demoving learning don top a building up that I hefu et Will not be ling . How Brother jour al you strell out is well date my Jathe Stay and feel huppy, I will by I trin glong course to de have your share of it I therm it will be for the hest for both of us as I will make it all right. I want you to Et amount my letter and if wearefung Copy it were place the freeze many wefer problems

Everything except that in bear I would like to have published, book trovit & wall it I throught of giving you the history in that your continue it to Carol of then have it furtherles, (be you ever look in the aller Beneve the offer has letters from any afterna Bays in the to see what they day about a Salvice gets is all he has to Speck from fullie opinion & of your de any thing threth of price whent me, which? doubt have Estill copy it. It does me gad to home the love and compellence of my logo and the fferfreat Lyand will of my Sup office & can day without handing I am gaming daily in the termy. My dear belowed wife, I don't think ever drice ere are manice dit I do anything for which I have to blust /1/ and therentom Schooling in former days before you of you to blush for the & I there thet my military concertain long arist

will be a Cauca to which ene will book hack to in after your with pride Idalisfactions I then go am I there you are me doing I am merther It made me Sottle, but a hole , Valdice Thy! With your percent pragues the good winter of my fricand the encouraging and long letter from home with the pleaning tidings of my Smet and prosper our Children, I will get through this in better health more full in veloped, happy & all ,0.1161 Miss the Children give my too to all my hest wishes to Color thes Cohn & their yames I West dangelle fry heart fixed Hugen & faintly, for Gon Ban Je freight of miles, my love to Elijaketh and hard blessing to all severy and of your couch progres to him who duck all Things for your Wellfare I will they down an my humble her of Than, by the Vide of my Chapman as it is getting quite lake , hoping that this many wash you all wight on new not say there & Lower appears tet the Baye serile it

My dear dear good Wife
My sweet children
My noble Brother!

Your kind letter written Friday, Saturday and the most loving part of it Sunday during which time I have been in the most fearfull battle fought in the History of American Battles, I ret'd just now as I was sitting down to commence a letter to you my loved ones and if I tell you that it wrought a change in my feelings from a rather dull and little blueish to a gay and happy humor, I tell you only, that which Lt. Chapman, Childs, Orderly Wallick and my Boy who are all writing in my tent, have been teasing me about ever since. They say that the Rain & Thunder Storm which has been raging here to such an extent, that the high and dry place of yesterday is a muddy Camp to day, is all at once turned to bright sunshine at present, though we are all writing by candle light.

I now for the first time since the great fight feel myself as of old bully, and all the horrors are forgotten. That this fight made some impression on me is not to be winced at, though it now seems to me like a dream. I know however that I have acquitted myself to the full satisfaction of all. I was not in the least scared, but energetic and cool. Taking

care of myself as much as I possibly could, without heatlessly exposing myself, I was here and there and every where, encouraging all my Boys, seeing them all, leading them in front at every change of position, never hiding myself, frequently being in the hottest places and a many, many well aimed bullet whizzed passed my head and close by my body everywhere but thanks to God our heavenly father I came out of it without receiving a scratch. Our Banner which was always in my Company received 8 Bullets; one just passed through it not 2 inches over my head while the Colors were proudly waving right over me. I am well and hearty and the fact that my Company has 4 killed out of 9 in the Regiment and 5 wounded out of 47 is sufficient that to satisfy anyone that we are fighting boys and in front.

I just think that I have a lot of the noblest boys that ever shouldered a musket. My Lieutenants are the right men in the right places, courageous, brave and cool. Three of my Sergeants, Wallick, Bruce and Bowman are Boys with whom I challenge the world; they were as gay and pleasant as a young woman at a tea party. Wallick I appointed Orderly on the field of Battle though by the regular Rank of promotion it belonged to Lemon who shortly after the fight commenced hurt his leg (he claims) by getting over a fence from the Battlefield and lit not join the Regiment until 6 Rank.

Captain Ford, that very hansome and Interesting Captain that I wrote you about, was one of the just once killed. It would be a task for me to describe to you my experience of the Battlefield as it would most likely not improve your good opinion of military, and I believe I will wait until I can tell you.

My getting home in May is now a fixed fact; all have such a good opinion of me that they dare not refuse it. I could go home to morrow if I desired, but as I can likely only stay 40 days, I have no desire to go and leave again just the time when I would not miss being at home for a Colonelship. The Arrest of the Colonel will undoubtedly lead to his dismissal from the Service which will make Voris Colonel and the Captain of Company A Major; the Captain of Company B being dead will make me Captain of Company A or senior Captain in the Regiment or next to promotion to Field Officer and the changes, transfers and so forth which are so frequent gives me a good chance; however I will not say until I get home as I do not feel like deciding until after I have seen you all.

Tuesday night I left here and rode Horseback 24 miles to see my wounded Boys and look after my dead ones, all of which I found buried but Orderly Wiggins who the Millersburg Band Boys had kept for orders from me, whom I

sent to Millersburg where he has undoubtedly arrived and has been buried, which I would like to hear in your next.

It is said that he whom the ground covers is gradually forgotten and so it seems. Since the Boys have made up their minds, that Friday night Orderly Wiggins Corps arrived at Millersburg and is buried, the last of the fallen heroes, they are assuming their old gaiyty again, sing and cut up as much as ever and only when a name of one of the fallen Nobles is mentioned you can see a spread of gloom over their faces and I must confess I have not yet forgotten 5 of my very best boys, who 9 days ago were as gay as any, are no more, but yet since I got your letter I feel as though I could enjoy a good joke right hearty. Just think how much I will have to tell you when I come home! Been in an awful Battle; just think of the crack of a continuous Musketry of from 15 to 16,000 guns, the Cannonading, the Cavelery dashing, the men yelling and every thing else; cant I tell you Something? I'll bet I can tell you as much as you could even if you would go as far as Wooster and you know you always see lots. I have just made up my mind that I will have as much to tell you as Marshall and Sally would if they would ride from Lima to Millersburg in a Buggy and you know that is a good deal. Tell Hamlin that he must be a good Son and I will tell him all about the big fight; how I seen a Shoe with a foot in, Shot off by

a Cannon Ball and lots more. Also Lizzie, I have a great deal to tell her and lots of pretty things to bring her, as well as for Hamlin and Mosey. Oh but I rejoice to see the time when I can take them on my lap and kiss them, but time flies so fast here, moving and removing, tearing down and building up, that I hope it will not be long. Now Brother Joseph, as you stuck out so well, do for my sake and stay and feel happy. I will try and win glory enough to do the whole Spiegel Family and you shall have your share of it and I know it will be for the best for both of us as I will make it all right. I want you to examine my letter and if necessary copy it and place the punctuation before publishing it. Everything except that in lines I would like to have published, look over it and read it. I thought of giving you the history so that you could read it to Caroline and then have it published. Do you ever look in the Akron Beacon? It often has letters from our Akron Boys in the 67th and I am very anxious to see what they say about me, as the little Credit that a Soldier gets is all he has to expect from public opinion and if you see anything worthy of notice about me, which I doubt, have Estill copy it.

It does me good to have the love and confidence of my Boys and the Respect and good will of my Superior

Officers and can say without boasting I am gaining daily in the Army.

My dear beloved wife, I dont think ever since we are married dit I do anything for which I had to blush (except Uniontown schocking in former days) [meaning unclear] before you or you to blush for me and I know that my military career as long as it may last will be a career to which we will look back to after years with pride and satisfaction. I know you are not sorry you let me go and I know you are not sorry I am neither Quarter Master nor Sutler, but a bold "Soldier Boy ". With your fervent prayers, the good wishes of my friends, the encouraging and long letters from home with the pleasing tidings of my sweet and prosperous children, I will get through this in better health, more fully developed, happy and all "O.K."

Kiss the Children, give my love to all, my best wishes to Cohn, Mrs. Cohn & their Young sweet daughter, my best Respect & kindest regards to Henry Herzer & family, ----- J. L. Joseph & family, my love to Elizabeth and God's blessing to all & every one of you, with prayers to him who seeth all things for your welfare I will lay down on my humble bed of straw, by the Side of my Chapman as it is getting quite late, hoping that this may reach you

all right.

Ever Your

Marcus

You need not say anything about the Lemon affair, let the Boys write it.

God bless you all



Tranking Africe 31/62 My dear dear good little life Though I have only to day bern 2 Letters of yor 8 foolseap theet to you, get I just um leaved that my pains It Falaran is going to ohim to I would give you a few lines to day to you I am bully , bully A that since the great battle I love you more more much, you are the Idal of my sand, my thoughts by day, my dreams by right my all all in all. God bless you and all and gard sweet Children, I have them all Fad Kurns want to see them hadly

I live first as I have for a John while , Keny adams a Joney by from millersbuy or hear Cools for me & attendo me my Tients Chapm & Chilis Very self hour together fince ine left the Rail Space and hour is not so good, we get no molapes not kegetables any Grackers, fresh Hal-Beef & Bank, Coffee Shight you wanted to have how I wear my whicker, I have not shaved no dimmed for I me my have is a little longer than umal, I woll Sumbuned & my hams black. Directhe hattle I was an lichet and happened to be man

a neighborhood where the greatest Persylvania Vhlemils, live that I ever som, all the Families are the Va Intel De called, coe were near a splend it brick home the Proprietar as regular John of Keplan as ever lived in the worth Came and and invited me in southed me to protect him lim his property from Violence by my bays I promised it of have my logs respect my framing I was ened little a Prince, though I with not accept a bed as I feared Calching colo, I Hept our the floor They have 6 grown girls, as regulare John it Keplan Lirls as

hoed, a Sarah, many, Malipa to their laugher, I all they talk the same Juging durah, when I left The old Lady cried, total there about you & the Children they all oried. May coming home if no presenting providence is since now & God ham I long to see the time You have no Idea, but patience to My gant furtterme in ant of his bed he heard his But had Evene firm home, I hope it has, he has been lamenting long enough fores

I this this for all I have told your Gesterday thois I dit not fine once diving the Battle I had once my Genolver coelled but though of my promise to you and me Evelled it again, from that You can see that I was perfectly ento coal + as usual thinking of you my love Two of my logo cane home from Cumberland Magnital to day they say the bags he all getting along blerable. off Mallrott Jone Day died but I have not been Officially Artified & I think if he was dead they would have unliped them lays were in aurth Haspital & as there are La Haspitals in the lower

Could not accordan. I have pritten to the dept of Clary Haspitals tas Soon as I get an ansmer I will inform his friends. We may have to leave here in a few days as I suppose we will not have very larry Stoppages how any more untill this War is aver. I have written to my dead Chilinen & Thope you may have the letter ere this A they will he pleased with it, I feel very hearty, down much So miles asgund as any of my horys to I think if I have

the good fortime to come out dage for which I hay to God and as I doubt Very anneh that we wer Come in amother Battle at least as funions as this, I think I will he the best boy your enn dan. I get highly com. plemented for my common on the field of Battle Theet ones I grine my love to my good Broth. my thanks Hespech as well as undying loved to you I day do for my Jake lathe care of your below for my take Heef up Minito, he a good Fire

these dies gas my dies had That have finds the new well but maybe I can improve it, by some accid of Battle, don't adopt? it yet The plan about oin Eligabeth Finds une hully, I allways brother in that direction for favorable usullo. Gard might my smart anes, everything is a gnike nothing but the quarks is heard. I forgat to say It Cal Vais is the hest mon living I am Sure of it. I work as often as I possibly can, but after I am a weell we thank my bett tent un Paper our nothing morning along from place to place, but at

My dear dear good little wife

Though I have only to day sent 2 Letters of 7 or 8 foolscap sheet to you, yet I just now learned that my friend Lieutenant Fahrian is going to Ohio to morrow and I just thought I would give you a few lines to say to you I am bully, bully and that since the great battle I love you more, more much; you are the Idol of my soul, my thoughts by day, my dreams by night, my all, all in all.

God bless you and all our good sweet children, I love them all and God knows want to see them badly.

I live just as I have for a good while. Henry Adams, a young boy from Millersburg or near, cooks for me and attends me. My Lieutenants Chapman and Childs and my self board together. Since we left the Rail Road our board is not so good; we get no Molasses nor Vegetables, only Crackers, fresh and Salt Beef and Pork, Coffee and Sugar. You wanted to know how I wear my whiskers. I have not shaved nor trimmed for 2 Months; my hair is a little longer than usual. I look Sunburned and my hands black. Since the battle I was on Picket and happen to be near a neighborhood where the greatest Pennsylvania Shlemils

[simpletons] live that I ever saw; all the Families are the Virginia Dutch so called. We were near a splendit brick house. The Proprietor, as regular John A. Keplar as ever lived in the world, came out and invited me in and asked me to protect him and his property from violence by my boys. I promised it and made my boys respect my promise. I was used like a Prince, though I would not accept a bed as I feared catching cold; I slept on the floor. They have 6 grown girls, as regular John A. Keplars Girls as lived; a Sarah, Mary Malissa and so forth, their laughing and all; they talk the same singing dutch. When I left the old Lady cried; I told them about you and the children and they all cried.

My coming home, if no preventing providence, is sure now and God how I long to see the time. You have no Idea, but patience. George Wygand just came in out of his bed. He heard his Box had come from home. I hope it has; he has been lamenting long enough for it.

I have told you yesterday that I dit not fire once during the Battle. I had once my Revolver cocked but thought of my promise to you and uncocked it again; from that you can see that I was perfectly cool and as usual thinking of you, my love. Two of my boys came home from Cumberland Hospital to day & they say the boys are all getting along tolerable. Wm. Wallick some say died but I have not been

officially notified & I think if he was dead they would have notified them boys were in another Hospital & as there are 20 hospitals in the town could not ascertain.

I have written to the Supt. Of Army Hospitals & as soon as I get an answer I will inform his friends.

We may have to leave here in a few days as I suppose we will not have very long stoppages now anymore until this War is over.

I have written to my dear children & I hope you may have the letter ere this & they will be pleased with it, I feel very hearty, I can march 50 miles as good as any of my boys & I think if I have the good fortune to come out safe for which I pray to God and as I doubt very much that we ever come in another Battle at least as furious as this, I think I will be the best boy you ever saw. I get highly complemented for my command on the field of Battle from every one. To my sweet ones I give my love, to my good Brother my thanks & respects as well as undying love to you I say do for my sake take care of yourselves for my sake keep up spirits, be a good girl.

That name suits me very well but maybe I can improve it, by some accident of Battle, dont adopt it yet. The plan about our Elizabeth suits my bully, I allways looked in that direction for favorable results.

Good night, my sweet ones, everything is as quite nothing but the walk up & down of the Guards is heard. I forgot to say LT. Col. Voris is the best man living I am sure of it. I write as often as I possibly can but often I am a week without my box & tent no paper nor nothing moving along from place to place, but at every chance I write to my sweet wife and I think long letters good night my love it is late & I am tired.

Your

AMERICAN EWISH

I kiss this for all the best I can do now Good night