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1862 May

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Auf Crantes by the fige My dead good lovely someet Wife my dear Children, dear han End In beloved Proted The chief Bugler (it being I valoch I'm which means take your company out for afternon deill, the afternoon is Warm but pleasant and forme how a do mit feel as though Conta do another thing eie I had Thereford It Chilles take and the Company and Report me infit not well, There is nothing in the get I have been many many day A since I have been in the camy that is good, my Vietuels of heller

quality than I have been wont yet they take not as pelishing to me, as pertition, Daw art homesich get I never never In my life felt as much litte Seeing your all as & do now, not think I am at all O'de troubled about you, but for the last week day and night your foody pictures place been Constantly before me and frequent her distincted by dearns about Joseph mit as pleasant and agreable as I like & really loan not day that grighning ails me therefore & barr ant find a getnedy yet if your I will tell you my provate opinion and that is a quait of yome would put Syadon abroad. Sow it is out, and in Briters

to retiend any timble much I to ill attempt to write your a bony long good better find fract as D have only ceands withing form the fact that of throught a quest many thing I tomo tel your and fin the last 3 weeks D & fuched to Ofart home energy day, but my bland of aline is soften I have been on Driss Parade, tout my supper, of trand late up Eggo" my on cooking tastened to the Bayles Retreat and us he adreaded they for there wand Sof them Sommed Settor through the quite, bright, pleasant May Eve, I felt a monotom cap buer me as I bat in folitate before my little Carrow house, which toold And home I could see you, the divert Children, buck Joseph, Eligabeth Jetting logether and feeling as hough you would like to the me and The Picture was a pleasant and

and I was around to firm my sweet Politule which decipyed for fall 1/2 hours, by the livety Sound of the Bugle Soundary Jops" which means, blow out the lights " hat I have made up my mind not to along but got up i form my ange home made bonch, toto Kenny light up, caine in my little banely Mand to tell you of it had never attempted to get leave of abane as if an Regiment was marching an to a checerfull assand upon the Encomp, I show not feel Imile as in easy , as if & work get getters from you as often as and to it would relieve my mind but and mailes very unegular, and cal had Viro mails come in contont a word from my develonce at home, no anything at all Since the 13th last most that is hand

de 2. I me to your I would send a little to celill giving your a montate de Jointing of our last March to Himint at ellerne jackens done it thereford will now give your a little Thestory, but it is Imitine and may mit be so accurate as I stiple have been some time perce, homeneras That was in all homan probability the last one and Rug , will be : engaged in in this War and as Catalonges of one working impartial Und My: has been angaged and as I am antions to preserve The Accord of my campagno in my family will now entre Ido Morning, Im Dolla form millesburg, at a had been with us for onite a time life us, we Expected the Paymaster in the afternoon, but a 3, O.M

no Jaymasher but a messenger came, instructing and Col to have 3 Compenday with 3 dfel Apations to move at 6. P. Mand Report of the De Ohio Cot Cairol being Bhights Col, I imediately stant for Ebrights quarters to find out what was in the wind, Doctor told me, there was fin alead, that it, ment, Laging Dome Rebels + that he was agoing along, I swipth petrimul to Camp asting Collous to permit mer my Company to be mof the three Companies, but Cel Vino total one it was not my times he had allready detailed Companies A. F. + I and herides all that las would probably have forme from of and and he ford another day. Vand her wanted and and my Company with him at bo clock that Dame afternort another mellinger Came and ardered Col Voirs, to have the Almander of his Commande Acady with 3 dfd Ightion, to

fail in at 11 a clock that inght as quality to presitle Some of: the hope wer glad while atos allmost & mail and worder protesty have strong sight they beit do Do, for fear of honting the lept, because they had been pay you after all mostly Then get ready with pleasures and the and it was the first time fine I am in the Survice that I came near futting Same of Any men in Com if the had not changed their notion the time and late me they the dist and think the forthe the foron that first its highest ray over as heartifull Valles as the about over gave, the fell in no and puaking about a topic the Commany by

by the prices was grand, in Hamle to Short style" hatter in n'as easy a treat as ine conto through the Words, and the of of themand theddow, was a cloverfield passed a likest field an the like on soc went untill we got to the Bridge at Edinburg lately berned by the Tokels that rebuild by the dain Anion boys under the constant find of the litele and as we neared the gridge, we Came to the Brogg Hady Gunil of the noble our Heroe this who although severely Differing firm his shattend chin was an hand to give instructions, We halled there intill, Co Masan of the Ht Chir, uhr received his instructions from the oa year then we crow the Physe & after unching for about stopaces, we halted If yof pigt in bill, with Marge againt

Theet 3 Jam glad I Stopped last Eres for the old Adage at himment folder not formed time for this a mail and among it was a quat big to Good letter from home of the 24th Fahring and instell I am happy and feel good, It thatin was Very bory he dit not meet Bur Joseph at Andron as Efficienta. for Fuind Ames he prequently does Ouples and at state. 100 for Dorts 19 gott concerning It-Happinn, Any Dobto is certainly in Error al D do scarcely believe, m Dobbs ever faw the Sk, Hahrind is as what June 200 Co g and as good On Officer and as fine a Gentleman to learn of the good health of all of you inasmuch as I be in many gear deal of siching that there is a

Moro to my manative they something else we When halted acrops Stonig Cheek How Knew within the Very limite germ When we had been the Energy unnirous in the afternoon and within 200 pares firm where we fun the sizen then Shello s Camon Isalto en pight, the fait fun was plose at hand and Wally & mener Experienced & more Inblime Aprechacle of human brancing and military prander the glitter the light of the month the ant in heards and the spectation of a Bloody midnight Battle, Comething It somantic really inspired me I believe with the peroiem. The H & Ohiv (wather hart of it hart of it having good at duste with the do called bagging Afudition) I they were devided to the light and left of the pille accepthickeral field as Marmisters, gov a short distance in advance of us, who where marching by the fland on

the pithe , slowly but fleadily in advanced. untill we reached the top of the first Emminerse from whence the Behet Canno had been helching frith its hamles Fire whow and Protecto but I home previous but nothing washeard, ine descended down to mend allmost on the fort of the Apille when all of a certain verhin least expected, the Depart of many tiples right is famath of as trohiggin of as many Bullets abast and Ear and of all Santins I welfelt the and put then caas the Changes It was pouneppected and somed as glear through the shill night and that it producterely produced a Mange affect, the first I dit was to adrep my company, tolo thear to Mand up + C and also told their that the first man to leave his Post I would shoot down at the same time telling of Chills to do the Dame if he dad any of the they leaving fands to pop them over It Chapman was was with us an that trop, and Thirmiter blowing alranded on the

Tebel anthorthe fust by us formed a pating fire into the we presed after them, but after about 2 miles we were halte and than Contend to more Cantionly and any one half while ofter that time un were again find into with some Toousiderable Vehemend when en were ordered to Wheel to the light I give them a provad Cline " which we doit admissably tas usual they geatatled " They however had the advantage of being at home and knowing the Country for do to take crops like their tall and mot de to follow it was fast shorthy hefore day bleat I as we cantionsly word along we allost once for a folome of Inothe sist for to a Valley about I male à head of no Apresently the eky

Sheet 4 oncould see, day was danging the were permitted to per the Munise an as pretty fich and functe a Valley as fist yays of day were the ite on the Easter forgen we, that is part of our Reg. Just bar the Blages light up on a Covered Bridge & the Gebelo more of and gergede tale Cal Poiso to dioparch his 2 best Companies an donale group after hear, When of chunce Capter Muight to Capa Bentler were dispatched. I pulled of any Overeva that is Chapman of them it enony too the Propo let wager in of mind Buckey yells safter them, it Word hand and you good the Andy who all in flami, we thened to the right forded the Cuch & put crossed in time to give them a Volley of one Mushets, ind must have thills I sommed Some of theme

as we daw then find come in Automlances & par sone after them when and and the Camp cam thatter us untill we could see the Careleny Supporting to the om left and the Park by that time the other Okimmiker haw Grossed the Greek to om left & Comp were considered their wave to an night through the woods We Daw the Caselery Hadvacked A as we advanced you pass their thetitlen akeer shells & Bap among us looming and efan Bry a Campber Shet them the Rist' from which he Antregrantz with his hand . We advanced I commanded the Divifeira VS In one gaad and any Crows to I thought of thowly advancing within fair Musthet range + 3 then go couble quiel in the Buyinetto & tathe their old tim about 100 paces & werend the Diviforna to found in Aplattanio

and as we were about harling. And Rid de Camp to Sent Kinhal Came galloping up like - having back this hat shouted Cape topen in hell and your going out the d - d instruction Mer sup he" you loak like it Hwith a hand full of men Conce formalines quick that and the way the pound it with is it was a cantin : Then here we ever laying our on Dais not able to do any thing not permitted to advance I thinking that probably and ather Companies to and right In the Wards might have some fund ales and aldistance ene unved an Diripin on an from Gespanssbilities to the Word the Rehels Shelling as all this time time dodging . then shello. My Brys gat see by this time, they banded "unt any of the Kehel shells

We reached an Companies A form were ordered to unite Ladrance, when thirthy and came through the Camp the Rebels had accupied and probably to min, before, their their measthittes which they left loc advanced had serviced ather Miniskes that day aufull hot weather and had to march custill 2 hours ofter night untill coe got a Chance to thop just think of a march firm 11 o clock at might mitill 10 retrek might might it was hard I tell your, when we tapped my hayo boon had plenty of shan when I haid down the night was warm & doon dupt, about 120 chek Some of my lings called my telling me they had a big Supper, an getting up they

Theck 5 a Direct & a Chicklen, they had charled them all I put all of them together in and big Kettle which they bourned" A then they got form pritatoes to fint them in the Dame mip & them pepper shall thought & I tell you to made a pludid me . I ate face which worked mo up. Multaged there that day when and Hop discovered a Salt Peter mine abrich I interted to describe to your from the mention dituation Asomantic aspecte De hard her doubt it might perne Interesting had I drue da light off ibut mon I holde forgotten a goar deal, chseemes Anovement of the Battle 200 . generally take a brinnte of as Doon as we Otop. Nept day we were Ordered baces to Woodstock to get and hay & take charge of the Post untill relieved. While ather dware Some of the Dop liked it, while ather dware

abant marching back 28 miles from any Chance of fighting geept Guorillas" displeased I felt as though a few weeks rest wonth not hant me. Afri we are wo and Situation to Woodstack is that of Me Kees to Mallereburg only a little nearer. Woodstock is the county Seat of Shenandwork County composed mostly of Seefinist get there is but few of the first families here The torra is 150 years all, they have a church Heresof 110 years all, I have been acting Survest Maishal of the town for deveral days Annat most likely take charge of the Birrost Marshal Ship allogether to morion, I was to Men Market yesterday and made arrangements for a daily mail bee which will be the most pleasing feature in the whole thing I have not give up the Idea of coming home, I and Abraining encing nerve to get a leave of absence and third I Shall accomplish if I have had lot of few Tince Daw in the Service more Especially in ingrina with Jehndim, Sgenerally know them by the name as well as point then I go in I take Chapman ouchilds along, talk about brying & than day a loshow hallodesh word" I you ought to see them from dask

ychudal? Yoo Sir & then O can asme you they are fif mehanah" & do me all the "Cover" in the World, this is Sunday afternoon I was invited down town bey two of them for Duned with all my Trenten I aregited the invitation of MN goverband - who has a splendid american Woman for a fran " Indaughter 14 years & Son 10 y " and Juch a Denne would do hanno to a King 1 Mr Rosenhamm as well as my Heller have consted me to come to town Aboard with them free of charge While & talk about boating, I must Day to you, the farmers through her who are mostly like the armisk? of Hubnes Co a like M. Wesc Afahn Replan of greentownship bring daily many thing to camp in the line of Butter Eggs Bread + Oie & you canto wish we can after get 3 doz of Eggs for a fint of Salt they used to pay seven Dollars for a baskel of Salt and than con I idered them belves linely in getting it Callico 50 m yard & Enchything chochin proportin

most of the Cumber falls wand with which Dide winns. Shey have not Seen any Dilver as gold for a year Everything Shinplaster of a tell your they love us a little the best hearnes we have accosionally a quarter in silve. Enclosed find of of their money, anch they have in Sex 3 10 xe Eyes, find Bred, Cartoffel Salat, + crery thing Inch as I like and if I and I could go home for 3 weeks I think of My love to the Children, I will write a letter for the special Edification of family use to monow & will here after wishe often even if I Ethethe go home to morrow & will work To day and her you, Remember you the wing & affectionale

Head Quarters 67th Regt

Near Woodstock Va May 2/62

My dear good lovely & sweet Wife

My dear Children, dearer than ever

My beloved Brother!

The chief Bugler is just now sounding the Assembly (it being 3 o'clock P.M.) which means take your Company out for afternoon drill, The afternoon is warm but pleasant and somehow I do not feel as though I could do another thing ere I had written a long letter to you.

Therefore Lt. Childs take out the Company and Report me unfit for duty.

I am not sick, yet am not well. There is nothing in the world wrong with me physically, yet I have seen many, many days since I have been in the Army, that I felt much better. My appetite is good, my Victuals of better quality than I have been wont to have for the last 3 months. Yet they taste not as relishing to me, as herethefore. I am not homesick yet I never in my life felt as much like seeing you all as I do now. I do not think I am at all troubled about you. Yet for the last week day and night your lovely pictures have been constantly before me and frequently have my light slumbers been disturbed by dreams about the children, you and Oncle Joseph, not as pleasant and agreeable as I like. I really can not say that anything ails me, therefore I can not find a Remedy; yet if you will say nothing about it, I will tell you my private opinion and that is:

A quart of Home would just now do me more good than 5 gallons abroad.

Now it is out, and in Order to relieve my troubled mind I will attempt to write you a long, long, good letter, such as I have been used to write and such as I have only ceased writing from the fact that I thought a great many things I would tell you and for the last 3 weeks I expected to start home every day, but my leave of absence is so slow coming.

Since I have written the above I have been on Dress Parade, took my supper "of smashed up Eggs", my own cooking, listened to the Buglers Retreat and as he or rather they, for there were 5 of them, Sounded "Tattoo" through the quiet, bright, pleasant May Eve, I felt a monotony creep over me as I sat in solitude before my little canvas house, which took one home. I could see you, the sweet children, Oncle Joseph, Elizabeth sitting together and feeling as though you would like to see me and the Picture was a pleasant one and I was aroused from my sweet solitude which I enjoyed for full 1/2 hour, by the lively sound of the Bugle sounding "Taps" which means "blow out the lights" but I have made up my mind not to obey, but got up, from my rough home made bench, told Henry, light up, came in my little lonely House to tell you of it.

I do think if I had never attempted to get leave of absence or if our Regiment was marching on to a Successful assault upon the Enemy, I should not feel quite as uneasy, or if I would get Letters from you as often as I used to, it would relieve my mind, but our mail is very irregular, and we had two mails come in without a word from my sweet ones at home, nor anything at all since the 13th last month and that is hard.

No. 2

I once told you I would send a letter to Estill giving you a minute description of our last March and Skirmish at Mount Jackson and New Market but I have never done it. Therefore I will now give you a little History, but it is sometime and I may not be so accurate as I should have been some time hence. However as that was in all human probability the last one our Regiment will be engaged in, in this War, and as I have given you pretty impartial catalouges of every movement, where our Regiment has been engaged and as I am anxious to preserve the Record of my Campayne in my family, I will now under take it. The Morning Mr. Dobbs from Millersburg, who had been with us for quite a time left us, we expected the Paymaster in the afternoon, but at 3 P.M. no Paymaster but a messenger came, instructing our Colonel to have 3 Companies ready with 3 days Rations to move at 6 P.M. and Report at Head Quarters of Colonel Carrols of the 8th Ohio. Colonel Carrol being Ebrights Colonel, I immediately started for Ebrights quarters to find out what was in the wind. Doctor told me, there was fun ahead, that it meant "baging" some Rebels and that he was agoing along. I swiftly returned to Camp, asking Colonel Voris to permit me and my Company to be one of the three Companies but Colonel Voris told me it was not my turn and he had already detailed Companies A, F, and D and, besides all that, we would probably have some fun of our own before another day and he wanted me and my Company with him.

At 6 o'clock that same afternoon another Messenger came and ordered Colonel Voris to have the remainder of his Command ready with 3 days Rations, to fall in at 11 o'clock that night as quietly as possible. Some of the boys were glad while others almost swore and would probably have sworn right out, if it were not that they dare not do so, for fear of hurting the moral feelings of their religious Captain, because they had been disappointed in getting their pay. Yet after all, most of them got ready with pleasure, all but three, and it was the first time since I am in the service that I came near putting any of my Men in Irons, if they had not changed their notion just in time and told me they would go any wheres I went, though they dit not think the Government used them fairly.

At eleven O'clock just as the moon shed forth its brightest ray over as beautiful Valley as the World ever saw, we fell in, no one speaking above a whisper; the Commands by the Officers was given in "Hamlet's Ghost style", hollow as from the graves. We moved in as easy a tread as we could through the woods, over the Railroad, through Meddow, over a Cloverfield, passed a Wheat field on the Pike. On we went until we got to the Bridge at Edenburg lately burned by the Rebels but rebuilt by the daring Union boys under the constant fire of the Rebels, and as we neared the Bridge, we came to the Buggy and body Guard of the noble old Hero Shields who although severely suffering from his shattered Arm was on hand to give instructions. We halted there until Colonel [John Sanford] Mason of the 4th Ohio, who received his instructions from the old General and then we crossed the Bridge and after marching for about 800 paces, we halted again.

Sheet 3

I am glad I stopped last Eve, for the old Adage _____

has this time not prove true for this A.M. the Provost Marshall sent us a mail and among it was a great big & good letter from home of the 24th which you intented to send through Lt. Fahrion and indeed I am happy and feel good, Lt. Fahrion was very sorry he dit not meet Bro. Joseph at Hudson as expected as for Friend Ames, he frequently does not see more especially if any oysters are at stake.

As for Dobbs Report concerning Lt. Fahrion, Mr. Dobbs is certainly in Error as I do scarcely believe Mr. Dobbs ever saw the Lt. Fahrion is as ever 2nd Lt. of Co. D and as good an officer as fine a Gentleman as in the 67th Regt. I was happy to learn of the good health of all of you inasmuch as I see in many letters from Millersburg that there is a great deal of sickness about. Now to my narrative & then something else. When halted across Stony Creek and we knew within the very limits from where we had seen the Enemy numerous in the afternoon and within 200 paces from where we saw the Enemy throw Shells and Cannon Balls ere night, we felt fun was close at hand and really I never Experienced a more Sublime Spectacle of human bravery and military grandeur. The glistening of the hundreds of Bayonets by the light of the moon, the anxious hearts and the Expectation of a Bloody midnight Battle, something so romantic, really inspired me I believe with true heroism.

The 4th Ohio (rather part of it; part of it having gone at dusk with the so called bagging Expedition) was the only Regiment in our advance and they were divided to the right and left of the pike across the broad field as skirmishers, for a short distance in advance of us, who were marching by the flank in the pike. Slowly but steadily we advanced until we reached the top of the first Eminence from whence the Rebel Cannon had been belching forth its harmless Fire upon our Pickets but 6 hours previous, but nothing was heard. We descended down and were almost on the foot of the Hill when, all of a certain and when least expected, the Report of many rifles right in front of us and whizzing of as many Bullets apast our ears, and of all Emotions I ever felt the one felt then was the strangest. It was so unexpected and sounded as clear through the still night air that it involuntarily produced a strange effect. The first I dit was to address my company, told them to stand up and so forth, and also told them that the first man to leave his Post I would shoot down; at the same time telling Lieutenant Childs to do the same if he saw any of the Boys leaving Ranks, to pop them over. Lieutenant Chapman was not with us on that trip. Our skirmishers having advanced on the Rebel outposts just by us, poured a raking fire into the Enemy whereupon they fled and we pressed after

them, but after we had followed them for about 2 miles, we were halted and then Ordered to move cautiously and only one half mile after that time we were again fired into with some considerable vehemence, when we were ordered to wheel to the right and give them a "Broad Side" which we dit admirably and as usual they "scatatled". They however had the advantage of being at home and knowing the Country so as to take cross lots and it being dark [we] could not see to follow. It was just shortly before day break and as we cautiously moved along we all at once saw a Volume of Smoke rise from a Valley about 1 mile a head of us and presently the sky was getting red. As far as

Sheet 4

one could see, day was dawning and we were permitted to see the Sunrise on as pretty, rich and furtile a Valley as the Sun Ever shone on and just as the first Rays of day were visible on the Eastern Horizon we, that is part of our Regiment, just saw the Blazes light up on a covered Bridge and the Rebels move. Colonel Mason, Acting Brigadier General of our Brigade, told Colonel Voris to dispatch his 2 best Companies on double quick after them. When of course Captain Spiegel and Captain Buttler were dispatched, I pulled off my Overcoat (that is Chapmans), threw it away, told the Boys, let us give one of our Buckeye yells and after them; it would have done you good. The Bridge was all in flames. We turned to the right, forded the Creek and just crossed in time to give them a Volley of our Muskets. We must have killed and wounded some of them as we saw them put some in Ambulances and run and we after them, when an aid de Camp came and halted us until we could see the Cavelery supporting us to our left on the Pike. By that time the other skirmishers had crossed the Creek to our left and the remainder of our Regiment and 2 Companies were winding their way to our right through the woods. We saw the Cavelery and advanced and as we advanced 400 paces their Artillery threw shells and crape [grapeshot] among us, wounding one of our Boys by a Canister Shot threw the "Rist" from which he subsequently lost his hand. We advanced; I commanded the Division and no one gave me any Orders, so I thought of slowly advancing within fair Musket range and then go double quick with fixed Bayonets and take their old Gun or get whipped. At a fence before us about 100 paces, I ordered the Division to form in 4 platoons and as we were about starting an Aid de Camp to General Kimball came galloping up like ---, having lost his hat, shouted, Captain, where in hell are you going to? I answered him, to close out the d---d institution. Yes, says he, "You look like it with a hand full of men; cover yourselves quick, " and just then the Rebels discovered us and the way they poured it into us, it was a caution.

Then here we were laying on our Oars, not able to do any thing; not permitted to advance and thinking that probably our other Companies to our right in the Woods might have some fun and need our Assistance, we moved our Division on our own Responsibilities to the Woods, the Rebels shelling us all this time and we dodging their shells. My Boys got so by this time, they can dodge most any of the Rebel shells.

We reached our Companies and soon were ordered to unite and advance, when shortly we came through the Camp the Rebels had occupied only probably 20 minutes before; their breakfast yet cooking in their messkittles which they left. We advanced, had several other skirmishes that day, awfull hot weather, and had to march until 2 hours after night until we got a chance to stop. Just think of a march from 11 o'clock at night until 10 o'clock next night; it was hard I tell you. When we stopped, my boys soon had plenty of straw where I laid down. The night was warm and I soon slept. About 12 o'clock some of my Boys called me, telling they had a big Supper. On getting up, they

Sheet 5

told me that they had "bought" a Goose, a Duck and a Chicken; they had cleaned them all and put all of them together in one big kettle which they "borrowed", and then they got some potatoes and some Red Beets, peeled them and put them in the same mess, and then pepper and salt and boiled it, and I tell you it made a splendid mess. I ate hearty, laid down again and slept bully until the Sun shone too hot in my face, which waked me up.

We stayed there that day, when our Boys discovered a Salt Peter mine which I intended to describe to you. From the peculiar situation and romantic aspects, I have no doubt it might prove interesting had I done so right off, but now I have forgotten a good deal. The scenes and movement of the Battle and so forth, I generally take a minute of, as soon as we stop. Next day we were ordered back to Wood- stock to get our pay and take charge of the Post until relieved.

Some of the Boys liked it, while others swore about marching back 25 miles from any chance of fighting except Guerillas. As for myself I believe I was not a bit displeased. I felt as though a few weeks rest would not hurt me. Here we are now; our Situation to Woodstock is that of McKees to Millersburg only a little nearer. Woodstock is the County Seat of Shenandoah County, composed mostly of "Secession- ists", yet there is but few of the first families here. The town is 150 years old; they have a Church here of 110 years old. I have been acting Provost Marshal of the town for several days and must most likely take charge of the Provost Marshalship altogether to morrow. I was to New Market yesterday and made arrangements for a daily mail here which will be the most pleasing feature in the whole thing. I have not give up the Idea of coming home. I am straining every nerve to get a leave of absence and think I shall accomplish it. I have had lots of fun since I am in the Service and more Especially in Virginia with Yehudim [Jews]. I generally know them by the name as well as ponim [face] and then I go in and take Chapman or Childs along, talk about buying and then say a "loshon hakodesh [Hebrew] word" and you ought to see them jump and ask Yehudah? Yes Sir and then I can assure you they are "[illegible word] Mehanah" [Mekane =envy] and do me all the "covet" [Koved-respect?] in the World. This is Sunday afternoon and [I] was invited down town by two of them for Dinner with all my Lieutenants. I accepted the invitation of Mr. Rosenbaum who has a splendid American Women for a "frau" [wife] and a daughter 14 years and Son 10 years. And such a Dinner would do honor to a King. Mr. Rosenbaum as well as Mr. Heller have invited me to come to town and board with them free of charge but I prefer my own boarding.

While I talk about boarding, I must say to you, the farmers through here, who are mostly like the "Amish" of Holmes County or like William Wise and John Keplar of Greentownship, bring daily everything to camp in the line of Butter, Eggs, Bread and Pie and so forth you could wish. We can often get 3 dozen of Eggs for a pint of Salt. They used to pay Seven Dollars for a bushel of Salt and then considered themselves lucky in getting it. Coffee they paid \$1 50/100 per lb, Sugar 50¢, calico 50¢ per Yard and Everything else in proportion.

Most of the Country folks would like to see the War over; dont care much which side wins. They have not seen any silver or gold for a year. Everything Shinplaster and I tell you they love us a little the best, because we have occasionally a quarter in Silver. Enclosed find [fractional currency] of their money, such they have in 5¢ and 3¢ and 10¢ and so forth.

We have smashed up eggs, poached Eggs, fried Bred, Cartoffel [potato] Salat, and every thing such as I like and if I only could go home for 3 weeks I think I could make it all right.

My love to the children. I will write a letter for the Special Edification of family use to morrow and will here after write often. Even if I Expect to go home to morrow, I will write to day. God bless you. Remember your true, loving and affectionate

Marcus.

Strictly Imorate Moodstock & May 8 fish1 My good, lovely and abund Wife! There no doubt for third that I speak tenty when I Jay abused Wife' a Momman as good to lovely, as faring to industrians, as Know a wife and good mother as you are should be left alone trankeds of miles from her himband who loves her more Seroth more ferrow feal & devothing than any other man can love just at this time in your fituation, with 3 forall Children and on coming on that he Should beard her at all, that I went to this War I never ofit regretted, think it helped me is my health reputation Thearing and if fust stay & days I wonly gladly stay A does not make no deny kind to molilary controntico of Or da

not get a lease of absence for some 20 al godfal pretty soon if I should not preced in gett. funifind to go, I ask of your 3 if you love me, to be as easy as fifty Dallans which it would cost me to come home for your band benefit and comfort, get that Minin from Alurn to Stay with you during that time and if you thould him us a don give the Sefattuckoft to Brothe Joseph mother Call the Boy brothe Joseph mother Call the eventhing you want to be happy I put to noole fridely get of flems to me as though fuch a thing conto not be possible wathout me being there, you of they would only Day go I God bless you my lond, my Sweet my all, may the blessings of heaven Mylore to the Children Marcus Joseph + Elizabeth

Strictly private

Woodstock V May 8/1861 [1862]

My good, lovely and abused Wife!

I have no doubt you think that I speak truly when I say "abused Wife"; [that] a Woman as good and lovely, as saving and industrious, as kind a wife and good mother as you are should be left alone hundreds of miles from her husband who loves her more and with more fervor, zeal and devotion than any other man can love, just at this time in your situation, with 3 small children and one coming, or that he should leave her at all. That I went to this War I never yet regretted. I think it helped me in my health, reputation and pecuniary [matters], and if just now I were permitted to go home and stay 30 days, I would gladly stay until Fall in the Service. But it does not make me very kind to military authorities if I do not get a leave of absence for some 20 or 30 days pretty soon. If I should not succeed in getting permission to go, I ask of you if you love me, to be as easy as you possibly can be and spend the fifty Dollars which it would cost me to come home for your own benefit and comfort. Get that Woman from Akron to stay with you during that time and if you should bring us a Son give the "Gefattershopt" [godparentage] to Brother Joseph and mother. Call the Boy "George McClellan Spiegel". Buy everything you want to be

happy and just console yourself. Yet it seems to me as though such a thing could not be possible without me being there. I would gladly walk 600 miles to see you if they would only say go.

God bless you my love, my sweet, my all; may the blessings of heaven rest upon you.

Ever your true and loving

Marcus

My love to the children, Joseph and Elizabeth

