



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

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

1862 July

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Camp in the Field near City
Point Va. July 6/62

My dear good Wife, my beloved Children
& Brother!

This is Sunday A. M.
a beautifull but very hot morning
and as I am compelled to lay on
my front in consequence of two
monster big "Boils" in the rear and
having been forced last night to leave
the field 5 miles from here and
come down here near the landing
among the sick, the Cowards and
the Misanace Soldiers generally
and as I have about seven among
them out of my company, whom I
would rather not talk to, I thought
there is nothing in the world that
could give me more gratification
than to "talk" to you for awhile
& only "stop at times when Henry
Beagle puts on the "flat seed"

I have written to you on board
W.S.S. Herald and then given to
you a short sketch of our Sea
Voyage, accidents, & I need
only say to you now that we
sailed that day from New Port
News to a Landing called, Hanifons
Bar, where after much confusion
and waiting &c we were
hauled ashore at about 4 o'clock
P. M. the 2nd inst. We marched
up from the Landing on the James
River some distance up a Hill
when a beautiful mansion, of old
fashion structure presents itself
to your view, which is the birth
Place of old President Hanifons
& subsequent residence, a splendid
place & surrounded by what was
formerly, undoubtedly, a magnificent
plantation, but now a desert
covered with thousands of little
"Huts".

Since I have written the above
I rec^d an order to report to the Field
at once as a Battle was impending
sick & weary as I was, with
2 Boils about my Sternum, the
weather to a perfect fever heat
I started & came just in time to
see our Pickets driven in by
the Rebel Cavalry, whereupon
we immediately started out, in line
o' Battle & they skedaddled.

I will now as I lay upon
my "belly" on the side of a hill
in a rather unpleasant position
give you a short history of our
adventures since we arrived here
as members of the Grand Army
of the Potomack.

As I said to you once before
we were landed at Hammonds Bay
4 mile from City Point and
were put in a field of wheat
of probably 100 acres which
was just harvested & put on
shocks and I am sorry to

in less than 5 min. all the heavy
nice good sheaves of wheat
were gone that is, taken up
by the Boys who rested their
weary limbs upon them, it
seems hard, but 5000 men, weary
overheated, tired out men must have
rest also & ~~are~~ nothing seems to
good for the poor boys

but there is no rest for the
winded, scarcely had the boys
got into nice supose after
cooling their tin of coffee
& eating a hard cracker, when
an order to march came and
a march it was of 6 miles
through the meanest hardest most
outrageous mud I ever saw,
you can have no Idea, neither
can ~~we~~ I explain or give
you an Idea, the ground is
of soft stiff clay & every step
we made we went in various
distances from knee to waist

to draw out a foot was labor of the
hardest kind it took us 6 hours
to walk 5 miles and we never got to
our place of destination a place in
the woods or rather swamp untill
after 12 o'clock at night, when all
that reached that place (though more
than half laid down wore out
in the mud before we got there)
wrapped themselves in their blankets
& gave way to sweet repose, where
scarcely their first dream had ~~ceased~~
every one was disagreeably aware
that rain was falling down
in torrents upon him and
the blankets were getting
heavy. & before day light we
got up to fix our blankets
as a kind of shelter, when
I got up I found out I was
laying in 6 inches of water at
least. At 8 A.M. we started
through the mud & marched
about 3 miles when we halted
in a place, not ~~was~~ a dry
spot within a mile & there
we stayed untill about an
hour before night when we
marched in the woods & stacked
Arms for the night but as we
supposed, but only for a while as
it proved for scarcity had
we sit down when an orderly
came with a message, calling
us 5 miles out, in front of

the whole line of Genl. Keys army
Corps and about 1 1/2 mile from
the Enemy, through an almost
impassable swamp over fell trees and
every other imaginable obstacle we
arrived there at 12 o'clock that
night where we found the 62 v. v
Regt already stretched out the Col
of the Regt informed our Col
our front was well picketed.
We laid down in the swamp
and at about 1/2 past 2 o'clock
the pickets to our right fired &
were fired upon, when instantly
we were called into line
primed and cocked our Guns.
Awaited the enemy, we stood
~~there~~ thus for about a half hour
when one after another of the
Boys laid down & fell asleep
untill nearly all slept at
about 1/2 past 3 o'clock a Comp.
of Rebel Cavalry of probably
1 or 200 who quietly got in front
of us fired 2 Guns, thereby arousing
us when in the act of springing
to our feet they all fired into
our Regt. Killing 2, wounding 2
lps & 8 men, their fire was how-
ever mainly directed against
the right wing of the Regt, my Comp
standing as Co B. we are at the
extreme left of the Regt. did thank
God not get a wounded man
any one killed

Camp in the Field near City

Point Va. July 6/62

My dear good Wife, my beloved Children & Brother!

This is Sunday A.M. a beautifull but very hot morning and as I am compelled to lay on my front in consequence of two monster big "Boils" in the rear and having been forced last night to leave the field 5 miles from here and come down here near the landing among the sick, the cowards and the nuisance Soldiers generally and as I have about seven among them out of my company, whom I would rather not talk to, I thought there is nothing in the world that could give me more gratification than to "talk" to you for awhile & only stop at times when Henry Beegle puts on the "flax seed." I have written to you on board U.S.S. Herald and their given to you a short sketch of our Sea Voyage, accidents &c & I need only say to you now that we sailed that day from New Port News to a Landing called Harrisons Bar, where after much confusion and waiting &c we were hurried ashore at about 4 o'clock P.M. the 2nd inst. We marched up from the Landing on the James River some distance up a Hill when a beautiful mansion of old fashion structure presents itself to your view, which is the birth Place of old President Harrison & subsequent residence, 24 a splendit place & surrounded by what was formerly undoubtedly a magnificent plantation, but now a desert covert with thousands of little "Huts".

Since I have written the above I recd an order to report to the Field at once as a Battle was impending. Sick & weary as I was, with 2 Boils about my Stern, the weather to a perfect fever heat, I started & came just in time to see our Pickets driven in by the Rebel Cavelery, whereupon we immediately started out, in line o Battle & they skedatled.

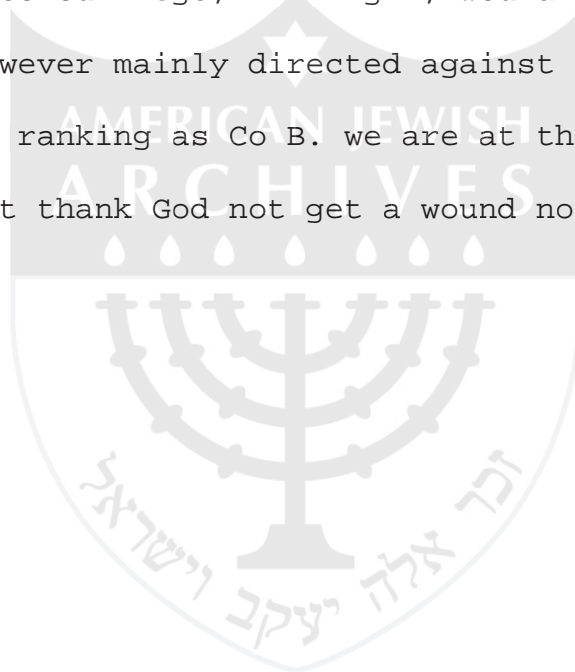
I will now as I lay upon my "belley" on the side of a hill in a rather unpleasant condition give you a short history of our adventures since we arrived here as members of the Grand Army of the Potomack.

As I said to you once before, we were landed at Harrisons Bar 4 miles from City Point and were put in a field of wheat of probably 100 acres which was just harvested & put on shocks and I am sorry to [say] in less than 5 min. all the heavy nice good sheaves of wheat were gone that is, taken up by the Boys who rested their weary limbs upon them, it seems hard, but 5000 men, weary, overheated, tired out men must have rest also & nothing seems to good for the poor boys.

but their is no rest for the wicked, scarcely had the boys got into nice snooze after cooking their tin of coffee & eating a hard cracker, when an order to march came and a march it was of 6 miles through the meanest, hardest most outrageous mud I ever saw, you can have no Idea, neither can I explain or give you an Idea, the ground is of soft stiff clay & every step we

made we went in various distances from knee to waist to draw out a foot was labor of the hartest kind it took us 6 hours to walk 5 miles and we never got to our place of destination, a place in the woods or rather swamp untill after 12 o clock at night, when all that reached that place (though more than half laid down wore out in the mud before we got there), wrapped themselves in their blanket & gave way to sweet repose, when scarcely their first dream had ceased every one was disagreeably aware that rain was falling down in torrents upon him and the blankets were getting heavy & before day light we got up to fix our blankets as a kind of shelter, when I got up I found out I was laying in 6 inches of water at least. At 8 A.M. we started through the mud & marched about 3 miles when we halted in a place, not a dry spot within a mile & there we stayed untill about an hour before night when we marched in the Woods & stacked Arms for the night as we supposed, but only for awhile as it proved for scarcely had we sat down when an orderly came with a message, calling us 5 miles out, in front of the whole line of Genl Keys Army Corps and about 1 1/2 mile from the Enemy, through an allmost impassable swamp over fellt [felled] Trees and every other imaginable obstacle we arrived there at 12 o clock that night where we found the 62 O. V. Regt allready stretched out the Col of the Regt informed our Col our front was well picketed. We laid down in the swamp and at about 1/2 past 2 o clock the

pickets to our right fired & were fired upon, when instantly we were called into line primed and cocked our Guns & awaited the enemy, we stood thus for about a half hour when one after another of the Boys laid down & fell asleep untill nearly all slept. At about 1/2 past 3 o'clock, a Comp. of Rebel Cavalery of probably 1 or 200 who quiteley got in front of us fired 2 Guns, thereby arousing us when in the act of springing to our feet they all fired into our Regt, Killing 2, wounding 2 Lts & 8 men, their fire was however mainly directed against the right wing of the Regt, my Comp ranking as Co B. we are at the extreme left of the Regt. [We] dit thank God not get a wound nor any one killed.



July 7/62

but never in gods world did we
stand up to the fearful work
any better than did my noble Band
that night, when most all the
Regt gave way & and more
Especially the right wing, owing
to the pressure of the Enemy, I ad-
vanced my Company in solid
Column, Boys not fired, though
the dash only guided by the
flash of the Enemies Guns &
my Boys did not fire until
we thought we were pretty close
and I think it was our
firing, that drove the Enemy &
sent them Retiring, the two
nights subsequent we were
on the advanced Outposts, where
we had to fire & were fired
at about every ten minutes
and in all fighting skirmishing
Shipboard &c where our Regt
lost from 25 to 30 men, I have
none killed or wounded, thank
God. But we are most all
wore out, the awful heat & suffering
for 3 days we have had no
rations and the water hot
& stinky and no sleep except
last night. Yesterday we
were relieved from the front
and taken back at the
Banks of the James River
an awful big River but the
water dirty & stinky

I really pity my boys in the Bottom
of my heart, but yet they are cheerfull
& lively while I sit her writing they
sit around me in the best possible
humor, they mostly worship me.

The Doctor just now opened my
two boils and I feel easier.

If we have much marching to do
during this hot weather I shall resign
and come home. I would like
to get the appointment of Colonel
in one of the new Regts I have
written to Cohn about it go and
see him and talk to him urge him
to go to Columbus at once I take
4 or five good men along.

If you can not read my letter you
must excuse me as I had a hard time
writing it. The mail just came in
but bro't no letter for me from
you for which I feel very sorry.

I am awfull anxious to hear
from you about my big son Hamlin
my dear Lizzie, my good Mosey
and sweet Hattie. About our
dear Mother, Uncle Joseph, Elizabeth
& all. Oh I wish I could get
a letter every day. Write often
and let me hear from you
Adress letter

Co. C. 67th Regt. U. S.
Henry's Brigade
Sw. Post Division
Army Potomack
near Washington

Your ever true
loving faithful
W. Lewis

July 7/62

but never in gods world dit men stand up to the
fearfull work any better than dit my noble Band that night,
when most all the Regt gave way and more especially the
right wing, owing to the pressure of the Enemy, I advanced
my Company in solid Column, Bayonets fixed, through the
dark only guided by the flash of the Enemies Guns & my
Boys dit not fire untill we thought we were pretty close
and I think it was our firing, that drove the Enemy & sent
them kiting; the two nights subsequent we were on the
advance Outposts, where we had to fire & were fired on
about Every ten minutes and in all fighting, skirmishing,
Shipwreck &c, where our Regt lost from 25 to 30 men, I
have none killed or wounded, thank God. But we are most
all wore out, the awful heat & suffering for 3 days we
have had no rations and the water hot & stinky, and no
sleep Except last night. Yesterday we were relieved from
the front and taken back on the Banks of the James River
an awfull big River, but the water dirty & stinky. I
really pittty my boys in the Bottom of my heart, but yet
they are cheerfull and lively while I set her writing they
set around me in the best possible humor, they mostly
worship me.

The Doctor just now opened my two boils and I feel Easier.

If we have much marching to do during this hot weather I shall resign and come home. I would like to get the appointment of Colonel in one of the new Regts. I have written to Cohn about it go and see him and talk to him urge him to go to Columbus at once & take 4 or five good men along.

If you can not read my letter you must excuse me as I had a hard time writing it. The mail just came in but brot no letter for me from you for which I feel very sorry.

I am awfull anxious to hear from you about my big Son Hamlin my dear Lizzie, my good Mosey and sweet Hattie. About our dear mother, Oncle Joseph, Elizabeth & all Oh I wish I could get a letter every day. Write often and let me hear from you.

Address letter
Co. C 67th Regt. O.V.

Your Ever true
loving & faithfull

Ferrys Brigade
Genl Peck Division
Army Potomack
Via Washington

Marcus

Camp in the Field near
Harison Landing July 10/62

My dear dear Wife + children and Peter
if he is there yet.

God bless you:

I am well hearty cheerful &
in better spirit than I have been
since I left home. We are still
near the Landing but not in front
of all the troops, neither are we
in a low miserable swamp, but
on a high bank of the James River
in what has been a thriving
Cornfield 10 days ago, but is now
a vast desert filled with little
Carruashouses adorned with
pine & oak Bunkies which is of
a more usefull than ornamental
helping to make the little houses
more comfortable as against
the heat. I have been greatly
discouraged since we are here
owing to the fact that my boys
had, even since we have been
withdrawn from the lines in
front, an unusual amount
of labor to perform, day and
night they were at it, chopping
or rather slashing trees, digging
rifle pits, throwing up entrenchments
and doing various kinds of
laborious & tedious work.

The first 4 days of our stay here
it looked as though we ~~would~~
^{would} have been severe fighting to do
daily, but somehow or other
they would be ~~severe fighting~~
not attack us, if they had
attacked us I think we would
have whipped them. You can
possibly have no idea of the
slashing of trees there has
been done since we came here
8 or 10 miles of a wild and
picturesque forest has been
locked to the ground and
the trees felled every way ~~up~~
so as to keep the enemy from
using any Artillery & Cavalry
against us. I think we have
a position now which is im-
pregnable and we are strength-
ning it daily, so that I came
to the conclusion ~~not~~ there
will be no fight here, neither
will we advance until
after we get plenty of rein-
forcement. I never thought
it possible that one man
could be so belov'd by so
many thousands of men, as
~~our~~ is Genl. McClellan, the
Army of the Potomac fairly
delirious, he can not show
himself anywhere, but the
air rings with cheers and songs
for the young American Chieftain

I have again pitched my tent and spread the fly spread in front and tall limbs of oak and sprigs of pine on the side which makes it very pleasant and rather agreeable though the heat is awfull, yet if I have no particular duty to perform I can keep myself cool, yet I think I have sweated barrels of sweat since I have been here and lost much sleep, but since my boils are open, and I am permitted to sleep at nights I feel all right again. Col Volis is quite under the weather and I do think if he does not get leave of absence in order that he may go home and permit his health, he may be considered gone. I do sincerely hope leave will be granted him. I have written to Col. Critchfield & others to attempt, to getting me a position of Col in one of the new Regiments and I do hope he will be successfull, since the war is going on and since I am in, I might as well be a little higher in rank. I think myself perfectly adequate for the position.

The Balloons are up every day and from them we learn
gets information as to the
position of the Enemy, I
think we shall be a defeated
General, all the Croakers may
say to the contrary notwithstanding.

I think it very strange that
I have not rec^d a word from
home yet and hope you believe
I may get one soon, announcing
to me the cheerfull tidings
that all is well. I would love
to see you all again and more
especially my dear little Mattie

To see how much she has grown
& how sweet she looks, Does
my dear Mamma take of his
"papa" does Lizzie go to school
yet? Is she a good girl?

Does Hamlin get the most
Head Marks? Does he know
yet that if he gets the most he
will get \$5. How is Elizabeth?
Do Brothers Joseph with you
yet? How do the Woolsears
and? All this question answer

me. Keep cool & in good heart
and all will be well. Hoping
soon to hear from you & probably
see you I remain

C. G. D. D.

Ever your true

1st Brigade
Army Corps

Wares

Potomac

Washington D.C.

Camp in the Field near

Harrison Landing July 10/62

My dear dear Wife & Children and Brother if he is there yet.

God bless you! I am well, hearty, cheerfull & in better spirit than I have been since I left home. We are still near the Landing but not in front of all the troops, neither are we in a low miserable swamp, but on a high Bank of the James River in what has been a thriving Cornfield 11 days ago, but is now a vast desert filled with little Canvas houses adorned with pine & oak Brushes which is of a more usefull than ornamental helping to make the little houses more comfortable as against the heat. I have been greatly discouraged since we are here owing to the fact that my boys had, even since we have been withdrawn from the lines in front, an unusual ammount of labor to perform, day and night they were at it, chopping or rather slashing trees, digging rifle Pitts, throwing up entrenchments and doing various kinds of laborious & toilsome work. The first 4 days of our stay here it looked as though we would have severe fighting to do daily, but somehow or other they would not

attack us, if they had attacked us, I think we would have whipped them. You can possibly have no Idea of the slashing of trees there has been done since we came here 8 or 10 miles of a wild and picturesq forest has been leveled to the ground and the trees felled every way mixed so as to keep the enemy from using any Artillery & Cavelery against us. I think we have a position now which is impregnable and we are strengthening it daily, so that I came to the conclusion there will be no fight here, neither will we advance untill after we get plenty of reinforcement. I never thought it possible that one man could be so beloved by so many thousands of men, as is Genl McClellan, the Army of the Potomac fairly Idolizes, he can not show himself any wheres, but the air rings with cheers and huzza for the Young American Chieftain.

I have again pitched my tent and spread the fly spread in front and tall limbs of oak and sprigs of pine on the side which makes it Very pleasant and rather agreeable though the heat is awfull, yet if I have no particular duty to perform I can keep myself cool, Yet I think I have sweated Barrels of sweat since I have been here and lost much sleep, but since my boils are open, and I am permitted to sleep at nights I feel all right again. Col Voris is quite under the weather and I do think if he does not get leave of absence in Order

that he may go home and recruit his health, he may be considered "gone". I do sincerely hope leave will be granted him. I have written to Cohn Critchfield & others to attempt, to getting me a position of Col in one of the new Regiments and I do hope he will be successful, since the War is going on and since I am in, I might as well be a little higher inasmuch as I think myself perfectly adequate for the position.

The Balloons are up every clear day and from them McClellan gets information as to the position of the Enemy. I think McClellan is a splendid General, all the Croakers may say to the contrary notwithstanding.

I think it very strange that I have not recd a word from home yet and hope Yea believe I may get one soon, announcing to me the cheerfull tidings that all is well. I would love to see you all again and more especially my dear little Hattie to see how much she has grown & how sweet she looks, does my dear Minnie talk of his "papa" does Lizze go to School yet? Is she a good girl? Does Hamlin get the most Head Marks? Does he know yet that if he gets the most he will get \$5. How is Elizabeth? Is Brother Joseph with you yet? How dit the Wool season end? All this questions answer me. Keep cool & in good heart and all will be well. Hoping soon to hear from you & probably see you I remain.

Ever your true

Marcus

Co. C. 67th O.V.

Ferry's Brigade

Keys Army Corps

Army Potomac

Via Washington D.C.



July 11/62

Harrison Landing Va

My dear, dear good Wife!

The mail has again
been distributed, but
no letter for me, no con-
soling word from my dear
dear Wife, no assurance
of the well being of my
sweet angels at home,
no repetition of their inno-
cent prattlings about their
Papa, in short no word
which would wear away
the gloom of an awfull
rainy day.

It is 5 days now
since our daily mail

Commenced and at
Every arrival here
I, with the greatest
anxiety awaited the
time of distribution
of the mail, but alas,
I had to leave it dis-
appointed daily.

If I only knew you
were all well and hearty
I could feel perfectly easy
but think of it my
good sweet wife, I left
you my love, my joy, my
all the mother of my four
beloved children, one
only two weeks old, our
sweet Babe, you scarcely
able to stand up, anxious
and sad at the departure
of your true husband.

troubled as I know you
was and subject to those
dangerous reverses likely to
fall on a woman in child
bed and then think of
me away from home
in war for three long
weeks and over and
not a word from
you, may God grant
that all is right.

If I hear from you
that all is right I shall
feel perfectly easy, we
have rather decent
Summer quarters and
not likely to have any trouble
shortly as we have a strong
position.

I will say no more
may God our
heavenly father ever

Ever bless you and
am beloved once is
the wish of
your ever true
Marcus

You may direct your
letter

Co C of the 1st Reg 02
Ferry's Brigade
~~North Carolina~~
Army of the Potomac
Harrison's Landing
Va

July 11/62

Harrison Landing Va.

My dear, dear good Wife!

The mail has again been distributed, but no letter for me, no consoling words from my dear dear Wife, no assurance of the well being of my sweet angels at home, no repetition of their innocent baddlings about their Papa, in short no word which would wear away the gloom of an awfull rainy day.

It is 5 days now since our daily mail commenced and at every arrival have I, with the greatest anxiety awaited the time of distribution of the mail, but alas I had to leave it disappointed daily.

If I only knew you were all well and hearty I could feel perfectly easy but think of it, my good sweet wife, I left you my love, my joy, my all the mother of my four beloved children, one only two weeks old, our sweet Babe, you scarcely able to stand up, careworn and sad at the departure of your true husband troubled as I know you was and subject to those dangerous reverses likely to fall on a woman in childbed and then think of me away from home in War for three long weeks and over, and not a word from you, May

God grant that all is right.

If I hear from you that all is right, I shall feel perfectly easy, we have rather decent Summer quarters and not likely to have any trouble shortly as we have a strong position.

I will say no more.

May God our heavenly father ever ever bless you and our beloved onse is the wish of

Your ever true

Marcus

You may direct your letter

Co C 67th Reg. O.V.

Ferry's Brigade

Army Potomack

Harrisons Landing

Va.



July 12/62

My dear, dear wife & children!

Against the mailbag bro^g,
the daily gladdening tidings for
every body but me, poor boy, just
think of it. Dr Ebrigt was here to
day & is here yet & took dinner
with me, we had boiled salt
Beef, Potatoes, sliced Onions
dried apples stewed & opened
a bottle of your delicious
"Catsup" which tasted splendid
& it a manned satisfied me
for not getting a letter, it
being of your preparation.

the Mail Bag waits, I must
hurry
Ever your true
Marcus

July 12/62

My dear, dear wife & children!

Again the mail bag brot the daily gladdening tiddings for every body but me, poor boy, just think of it. Dr. Ebright was here to day & is here yet & took dinner with me, we had boiled salt Beef, Potatoes, sliced onions dried apples stewed & opened a Bottle of your delicious "Catsup" which tasted splendit & in a manner satisfied me for not getting a letter, it being of your preparation.

the mail Bag waits, I must hurry

Ever your true

Marcus



Harrisons Landung Va
Sunday July 13/62

My dear dear Wife & Children

To morrow it will
be three weeks since I left you
all my beloved ones, in good
health & in a good spirit
as could be expected under
the circumstances. Since
that time, I have written
you severall letters giving you
Statements of the dif^{er} situations
I was in as well as the condition
of my health but as yet I have
not received a solitary
word in return.

Since we arrived at this
place I have written to you
almost daily and waited
daily with as much anxiety

as any loving husband and
father could watch for the
uncertainties of the health of
those left behind whom he
all loves & with a fervour
unequaled by few & surpassed
by none. Oh my God are they
are well? is anything wrong?
these are thoughts that occupy
my mind through the day and
haunt me when asleep at
night. God only know what
joy or anguish the answer
to those questions could
produce. If you do not
get letters from me regularly
you can attribute the same
to many reasons, such as
marching, picket, guard,
officer of the day, member
of Court-martial &c &c
but when the mail comes

regular and many offices. I
men get their mail regular from
home letters only 2 or 3 days
old & now for me, it makes
me sad, it makes me feel un-
easy & unhappy. You might
say there is no use to anticipate
trouble as in other ^{cases} ~~cases~~.

"Insufficient unto the day is the
evil thereof" yet a man that
loves you as I do, a father
whose heart beats with more
undescribable love for his be-
loved children as does mine,
can not feel satisfied, but
~~wants~~ with base philosophy
but wants facts, assurances
something to rely on.

If you are sick or well,
write a few words only.
If any thing, the matter

let me know.

I am well except a
hail which is very sore &
sorely have I ~~not~~ been re-
lieved from them since
I am here, I have really
no reason to feel dissatisfied
with my situation. My
Boys are getting better.

Am anxiously awaiting
the result of my friends
attempt at home, to get
me a better situation.
hope they may succeed.
in fact I know they will
if they do their best.

Ever your true
Aloisius J
Nareng

Harrisons Landing Va.

Sunday July 13/62

My dear dear Wife & Children

Tomorrow it will be three weeks since I left you all my beloved onse, in good health & in as good spirit as could be expected under the circumstances. Since that time, I have written you severall letters giving you statements of the diff. situations I was in as well as the condition of my health but as yet I have not received a solitary word in return.

Since we arrived at this place I have written to you allmost daily and waited daily with as much anxiety as any loving husband and father could watch for the uncertainties of the health of those left behind whom he all loves with a fervour unequalled by few & surpassed by none. Oh my God are they are well? is anything wrong? these are thoughts that occupy my mind through the day and haunt me when asleep at night. God only know what joy or anguish the answer to those questions could produce. If you do not get letters from me regular you can attribute the same to many reasons, such as marching, picket, guard, officer of the day, member of court martial &c &c but when the mail, comes regular and many officers & men get their mail regular from home letters only 2 or 3 days old & none for me, it makes me sad, it makes me

feel uneasy & unhappy. You might say there is no use to anticipate trouble or in other words, "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof", yet a man that loves you as I do, a father whose heart beats with such undescribable love for his beloved Children as does mine, can not feel satisfied, with bare philosophy but wants facts, assurances, something to rely on.

If you are sick or weakly, write often words only. If any thing [is] the matter let me know.

I am well except a boil which is very sore & scarcely have I been relieved from them since I am here, I have really no reason to feel dissatisfied with my situation. My Boys are getting better.

Am anxiously awaiting the result of my friends attempt at home, to get me a better situation. hope they may succeed, in fact I know they will if they do their best.

Ever your true

& loving

Marcus

Camp in the Field near Harispon
Landiny Va July 1862.

My dear dear good wife & children! good Mother,
My good Brother.

You never in all my life was
as dear to me as you are this morning,
for I just recd. your long, good, dear letter
of the 13th which assures me that you
all are O. K. My God what a weight
that takes from my mind, I feel young
well, cheerful & in excellent spirits.

I did not really think there was
anything wrong, yet I wanted to
have it in black & white from
you my love and from Brother
Joseph. I have not for the
last 5 days written to you, all
though I felt very much dis-
appointed when the mail was
distributed and I did not get
any news, but now I feel satisfied
and find no faults.

I will first of all commence to
answer every question in your
letter to the best of my ability.

1st I found my boys very much dis-
heartened and had I stayed away
one week longer, many of them
would have deserted, but my arrival
made it all right and many a sick
one was well. I honor after my arrival
and it is generally admitted, that
no life man could receive a more flatter-
ing welcome than I received.

You asked me how Mr Coker and I stood
when I left him I owed him not
quite \$100 I send him \$200 from
Fortress Monroe, which leaves him
in our debt about \$100, if you
want any money just get of him
what you want do not for my
sake suffer for anything but
live as a good wife and mother
should live happy and contented
and have everything you wish.
The money I drew in Washington
I got two months pay from the
Gov: & not knowing where we
might have to go I kept \$70 &
send \$200 We expect to receive
pay soon when I will send
home more and order what to do
with all. As for my working my-
self out I could not do more,
just at the time when the Country
calls for 30000 more men, but
I think my friends might get
me a better position in one of
these new Regiments now forming.
I want you to talk to them
and keep talking to them, talk
to Critchfield, Gadsbetter, & Coker
go and see Goss, if I could
get in a new Regiment I would
make Charley Mather with along and
make him Quarter Master. Many
of the Officers in the service get po-
sitions in the new Reg^{ts} who are
not as capable as myself nor have as

many friends, I know if you will just
attend this you may soon have me
stationed in some of the Ohio Camps.
Resignations are not accepted here
under no pretext only by your
motion and transfer can you
leave a Regt or this Army.
Everything is took from home I put
them in good order and you may
rest assured it did not come
amiss. Lt Childs in a mistake
took both of the fruit Cakes and
before I could reach him, he
and the Boys eat both of them
he sends you his compliments
and best wishes and thinks
you are the greatest Woman
in the world. The wine & liquor
we have been drinking off ever
since I have got some 3 or 4
Bottles, but so many beg who
are sick that it will not last
long. The bitter was excellent I wish
since I had all Bitters instead of
Joss' fine Brandy &c. The only acci-
dent I had was with the tongues
& dried meat, when we left Alex-
andria for the Chesapeake I took
them all out ordered them to
be packed in a harness and thought
of using them when we arrived
here, but when we arrived
at Newfort News & I wanted
to cook a tongue Henry Adams
in whose charge they were, told me

"By God I forgot them" a
sad accident

I do not know anymore about Col. B
than I did at home hope he is gone
to the D. C. Of my boys 47 are
with me, some 12 or 15 in the dif³
Hospitals in and about Washington
who will be sent here as soon as
they get better. Our situation is
really a romantic one on the Banks
of the James River along the beach
of which are hundreds of nice little
fresh water Springs, the Country around
here was when we came here
densely wooded, but has since
been leveled and entrenchments
thrown up, rifle pits dug and every
thing I believe has been done by
Genl. McClellan to make our po-
sition impregnable, the more so
while we are right along side of
such kind & friendly protectors
as the Monitor, the Galena &
twenty other great Monsters.

I have now I think given you
an answer to every question in
your letter and will therefore
give you some generalities.

The late withdrawal or rather
repulse of McClellan from before
Richmond, I look upon as a
great disaster to the national
Cause, though at the same time
it can not be denied

2nd Sheet

that the grand Retreat, has been con-
ducted by Gen: McClellan in
a manner which stamp him
at once the greatest as well as
gallant, magnificent as well as
Scientific General in the World
he is truly a General, the Rebels
were worsted at every engage-
ment and their loss is immense
in all probability 75000 our
loss from 15 to 20000 yet they
have the moral triumph of
forcing our Army to retreat.

The weather here has been for the last
6 or 8 days almost intolerably
hot, perfectly suffocating, but
for the last 3 nights we had the
severest thunderstorms and
rains which I think Mr South-
worth has so frequent & yet so
truly described. Today it is windy
and cloudy consequently not very
hot. I would love for you to go
to Akron to Bates, and have him
take you and our four children
likewise on a Card like Mrs. Wain
and her children were taken and
send it to me. it would be I
know an interesting, handsome
as well as most welcome picture
to me. But I do not want it
unless you are on yourself, I know
you would make a beautiful
Photograph much better than Ambro-
re daguerotype

Could you not surprise me?

If I have to stay here some longer I wish you would buy me a good Gold Pen one that would fit in my large black holder I had and took with me last fall from the Warehouse. Henry knows the size and he can best pick a pen for my taste. Tell him to pick one out for me, I forgot it when at home you can send it by mail. Our Regiment has about 100 fresh here who have the Camp diarrhea but they are getting better as they get acclimated to the Country. Since I have been here I had 7 stitches around my depositions which generally cover a Chair when I sit down but are all open & in good running order". I had the unfullest sick head ache for 2 days I ever had in my life, but now I feel all "bully" in health and spirit. Col. Norris had a Certificate from the Surgeon stating that he should get a leave of absence in Order to save his life and yet he could not get away, so you see I got my leave just about the right time and I am sure I made tolerable good use of my 15 days leave of absence.

I put in as many days as any
eye could in so short a time
"bully for our side"

I do not look for an
immediate advance on Richmond
I think McClellan will
have to have reinforcements
and then probably await the
Cooperation of Burnside
and Pope. Whenever Genl.
McClellan shows himself
to his troops his recd with the
greatest testimonials of joy I
ever witnessed in my life
the air is ringing for miles
with cheers, he is fairly worshipped
his old army who were with
him through the 7 days
sanguinary battles, look upon
him as their deliverer from almost
unavoidable ruin.

Our Brigadier Genl. Perry is very
gentlemanly but I am fearful
of his Capacity or desire to see
the men comfortable, we have
hundreds of men barefooted &
bare a - d & for the last
ten days we have rained h - l
daily & he has not yet succeeded
in doing anything for us
Our Division Genl. Peck I have
only seen once a very nice looking
man of good reputation
The Genl. Comd'g our Corp' d, Army
Genl. Keys I have not seen yet

He was to be here to day and inspect us but owing to the inclemency of the weather postponed it until to morrow, he will find a nice looking crew. He is highly spoken of by everybody. I think I have written all that will be of any interest to you & close now, with the assurance that as long as we can have a chance I will write often. Our living for the last 5 days is awfull we can scarcely get any thing but Coffee & Crackers & Crackers & Coffee sometimes the Crackers are fit to eat. The boys however fare better they get Beans Rice & Meat, but the Officers can not, there are no butler men. Some Lemons here sell at 25¢ a piece, Oranges 25¢ Cheese 50¢ per lbs & not fit to eat, rotten Quizer Cakes 5¢ a piece. A good butler could make a fortune in 3 days if he had the goods.

May God bless you and my sweet children, Mother & Sister Elizabeth, may happiness always be yours but is the prayer of yours ever true serving
My love to Cohn Family Marcus Henry Meyer Family & all friends
Tell Henry to write me all about the wool business everything

Camp in the Field near Harrison's

Landing Va. July 18/62

My dear dear good wife & children! good mother,
my good Brother,

You never in all my life was as dear to me as you are this morning for I just recd your long, good, dear letter of the 13th which assures me that you all are O.K. My God what a weight that takes from my mind. I feel young, well, cheerfull & in excellent spirits.

I dit not really think there was anything wrong, yet I wanted to have it in black & white from you my love and from Brother Joseph. I have not for the last 5 days written to you, although I felt very much disappointed when the mail was distributed and I dit not get any news, but now I feel satisfied and find no faults.

I will first of all commence to answer every question in your letter to the best of my ability. 1st I found my boys very much disheartened and had I stayed away one week longer, many of them would have deserted, but my arrival made it all right and many a sick one was well 2 hours after my arrival and it is generally admitted, that no life man could receive a more flattering welcome, than I received.

You asked me how Mr. Cohn and I stood when I left him. I owed him not quite \$100 I send him \$200 from Fortress Monroe, which

leaves him in our debt about \$100, if you want any money just get of him what you want do not (for my sake) suffer for anything but live as a good wife and mother should live happy and contented and have everything you wish. The money I drew in Washington I got two months pay from the Govt & not knowing where we might have to go I kept \$70 & sent \$200. We expect to receive pay soon when I will send home more and order what to do with all. As for my working myself out, I could not do [it] now, just at the time when the Country calls for 300,000 more men, but I think my friends might get me a better position in one of these new Regiments now forming. I want you to talk to them and keep talking to them, talk to Critchfield, Leadbetter & Cohn go and see Joss, if I could get in a new Regiment, I would take Charley Authenrieth along and make him Quarter Master. Many of the officers in the service get positions in the new Regts who are not as capable as myself nor have as many friends, I know if you will just attend this you may soon have me stationed in some of the Ohio Camps.

Resignations are not accepted here under no pretext only by promotion and transfer can you leave a Regt or this Army.

Everything I took from home I brot here in good Order and you may rest assured it dit not come amiss. Lt Childs in a mistake took both of the fruit cakes and before I could reach him, he and the Boys eat both of them he sends you his

compliments and best wishes and thinks you are the greatest woman in the world. The wines & liquors we have been drinking off ever since I have yet some 3 or 4 Bottles, but so many beg who are sick that it will not last long. The bitters was excellent. I wished since I had all Bitters instead of Joss's fine Brandy &c. The only accident I had was with the tongues & dried meat, when we left Alexandria for the Chesapeake I took them all out ordered them to be packed in a Havresack & thought of using them when we arrived here, but when we arrived at Newport News & I wanted to cook a tongue Henry Adams in whose charge they were, told me "By God I forgot them," a sad accident.

I do not know anymore about Col B[uerstenbinder] than I dit at home hope he is gone to the D--l. Of my boys 47 are with me, some 12 or 15 in the diff. Hospitals in and about Washington who will be sent here as soon as they get better. Our situation is really a romantic one on the Banks of the James River along the beach of which are hundreds of nice little fresh water Springs, the Country around here was when we came here densely wooded, but has since been leveled and entrenchments thrown up, rifle pits dug and every thing I believe has been done by Genl McClellan to make our position impregnable, the more so while we are right along side of such kind & friendly protectors as the Monitor, the Galena & twenty

other such Monsters.

I have now I think given you an answer to every question in your letter and will therefore give you some generalities.

The late withdrawal or rather repulse of McClellan from before Richmond I look upon as a great disaster to the National cause, though at the same time it can not be denied

2nd Sheet

that the giant Retreat has been conducted by Genl McClellan in a manner which stamp[s] him at once the greatest as well as gallant, magnificent as well as Scientific General in the World he is truly a General, the Rebels were worsted at every engagement and their loss is immense in all probability 75,000 our loss from 15 to 20,000 yet they have the moral triumph of forcing our Army to retreat.

The weather here has been for the last 6 or 8 days allmost intolerably hot, perfectly suffocating, but for the last 3 nights we had the severest Thunderstorms and rains which I think Mrs. Southworth has so frequent & yet so truly discribed. Today it is windy and cloudy consequently not very hot. I would love for you to go to Akron to Battles and have him take you and our four childrens likeness on a Card like Mrs. Voris and her children were taken and send it to me. it would be I know an interesting, hansome as well as most welcome picture to me. But I do not want it unless you are as

yourself, I know you would make a beautiful Photograph much better than Ambro or daguerreotype.

Could you not surprise me?

If I have to stay here much longer I wish you would buy me a good Gold Pen, one that would fit in my large black holder I had and took with me last fall from the Warehouse. Henry [Herzer] knows the size and he can best pick a pen for my taste tell him to pick one out for me, I forgot it when at home You can send it by mail. Our Regiment has about 100 sick here who have the Camp diareah but they are getting better as the get acclimated to the Country. Since I have been here I had 7 Boils around my dimentions which generally cover a chair when I set down but are all open & in good "running order". I had the awfulest sick headache for 2 days I ever had in my life, but now I feel all "bully" in health and spirit. Col Voris had a Certificate from the Surgeon stating that he should get a leave of absence in Order to save his life and yet he could not get away, so you see I got my leave just about the right time and I am sure I made tolerable good use of my 15 days leave of absence. I put in as many days as any one could in so short a time "bully for our side".

I do not look for an imediate advance on Richmond. I think McClellan will have to have Reinforcements and then

probably await the cooperation of Burnside and Pope.

Whenever Genl Mc Clellan shows himself to his troops his recd with the greatest testimonials of Joy, I ever witnessed in my life the air is ringing for miles with cheers, he is fairly worshipped his old army who were with him through the 7 days sanguinary Battles, look upon him as their deliverer from almost unavoidable ruin.

Our Brigadier Genl Ferry is very Gentlemanly but I am fearfull of his Capacity or desire to see the men comfortable, we have hundreds of men barefooted & bare a---d & for the last ten days we have raised h--l daily & he has not yet succeeded in doing anything for us. Our Division Genl Peck I have only seen once a very nice looking man of good reputation. The Genl Comd our Corps d'Army Genl Keys I have not seen yet. He was to be here to day and inspect us but owing to the inclemency of the weather postponed it untill to morrow, he will find a nice looking crew. He is highly spoken off by everybody. I think I have written all that will be of any interest to you & close now, with the assurance that as long as we can have a chance I will write often. Our living for the last 5 days is awfull we can scarcely get anything but Coffee & Crackers & Crackers & Coffee sometimes the Crackers are fit to eat. The boys however fare better they get Beans, Rice & Meat, but the officers can not, there are no sutlers near. Some Lemons here sell at 25¢ a piece, oranges 25¢,

Cheese 50¢ per lb & not fit to eat, rotten Ginger Cakes 5¢ a piece. A good sutler could make a fortune in 3 days if he had the Goods.

May God bless you and my sweet children, Mother & brother Elizabeth, may happiness allways be yours lot is the prayer of your true & loving

Marcus

My love to Cohn & Family

Henry Herzer & Family & all friends

Tell Henry to write me all about the wood business everything.

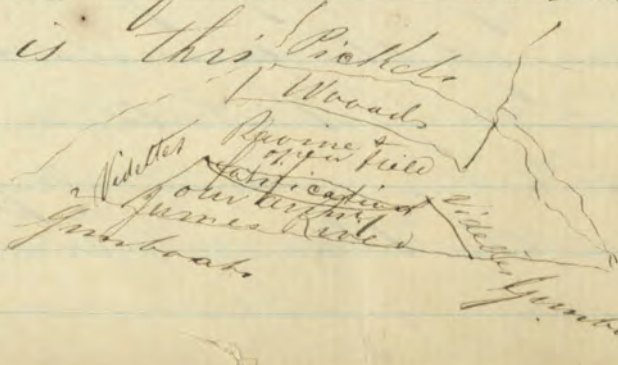


Mr. Harrison's Landing Va
July 20/62 Sunday

My dear Wife & family
This is Sunday morn
no drill, no extra duty nothing but
Company inspection which I will
have as soon as I get this letter written.

Since I have written to you on
the 18th in answer to your very kind
and sweet letter of the 13th. Nothing
of very great importance or notoriety
has transpired, it seems as usual
that whenever ~~we~~ I get a long &
real good letter from home, some
thing will take place which invariably
turns out well. The afternoon of
the 18th when your letter came, we
(the Regt) received Orders from Hd. Q.
to be ready by 3 o'clock P. M.
with one days rations & when
so ready, we were ordered to march
out about 2 miles in front of our
lines & relieve the 83^d & New Y. V. who
were on Pickets. I tell you the
front of our lines work dif-
ferent from what they did when
we left it after 4 days hard work
in skirmishing &c the trees are
all felled and our position now
is this.

Should I not tell to see my late father's thoughts & etc?



You will see that the
Army is protected by
the game fired in the rear

Gunboats on each side to assist in a most telling manner against any attack and our Centre by heavy fortifications (and ditches) well mounted by heavy Artillery, you will see that the Pickets are stationed in an open field in front of a piece of Woods & a piece of Woods between them & the front of our lines, the Enemies Pickets are about one half mile distance, & you will also see that should the enemy attack our Pickets the policy would be to fall back in the Woods draw them on after us and then fall back in the open field in the immediate front of our lines of fortifications fighting & drawing them on so as to get them to follow us in the open field, when we could get shelter by our Artillery and open fire on the Enemy in such an awful manner as to make it perfectly destructive to the Enemy having it so fixed at the same time that they could not see our Batteries until they would be on to them, such were our instructions and of course such our intentions, I got charge with my Company of the right flank Corner of the woods & a ponton I posted my Voltiers on the dig high places, made my Hd. Qu. & Reserve in the Woods, made a nice bed, fixed my Revolver and

after cooking a Cup of Coffee & putting
my pipe getting with 2 of my sidettes
in front untill about 11 o'clock
I laid down and had a nice
refreshing & comfortable sleep unconscio^{us}
of any danger, it so happened
that nothing disturbed our folks
that night, after Breakfast Obedy
Wallick and myself made a
Reconoitre in front for about
a mile thought we discovered
some Rebels &c, got down by
a nice Spring under an apple
tree and after refreshing ourselves
with Water we quietly marched
back when the boys were laughing
and enjoying themselves and when
I found Dr. Bright who had come
out all the way out to see
wether I got any news from home,
he being almost out of his head
having received a few lines by a Soldier
who passed through Hudson, from
that fool Minor. T. Ames, stating
that when he left Milledburg, that
Morning the Doctors little boy, was
not expected to live another hour
and I have no doubt I shall find
him dead when I come home at
4 P. M. The letter was dated the
8th and the doctor had not heard
from his folks since and I tell you
my dear, that when I showed him
in your letter of the 13th his little boy
was getting better, he felt like a new
man

In the afternoon we were relieved and
back to our camp without the
slightest accident or trophy.

Orders are now for Officers to
have no trunks, men to carry every
thing on their backs and every
indication go to show a forward
movement of some kind is in
contemplation. We had the same
Orders last week but as yet no
movement, I shall most likely
send my trunk and all my things
home by Express. St Chapman has
been relieved from the U. M. ship &
has rejoined his company. St
Childs is somewhat unwell the
weaker and excused from duty.
Levy, S. Osborn, M. J. Lemon, B. Widdings,
Peter Lewis, Geo. Kelley, Isaac J. Miller
are sick, all are here, all but the
1st & last named are "Yeshit" &
always sick about fighting or
duty time. I am first rate again, as
good as new in fact, since I got your
letter. I suppose Uncle Joseph & mother
are gone & you feel lonesome, but keep
up, by Fall I will be home and if once
at home shall stay at home with you
my dear & with my good Maamlin, Lezzy
Mosey & Hattie. I superintend their
raising & education & will endeavor
to amend in a manner to repay
you my love partly for the many
unpleasant hours & days I have caused
you, by showing you the undersided, unpleas-

and unpleasantry here of your own Maamlin

Harrisons Landing Va.

July 20/62 Sunday A.M.

My dear Wife & family,

This is Sunday morn no drill, no extra duty, nothing but company inspection which I will have as soon as I get this letter written.

Since I have written to you on the 18th in answer to your very kind and sweet letter of the 13th, nothing of very great importance or notoriety has transpired, it seems as usual that whenever I get a long & real good letter from home, something will take place which invariably turns out well. The afternoon of the 18th when your letter came, we (the Regt) received Orders from Hd.Q to be ready by 3 o clock P.M. with one days rations & when so ready, we were ordered to march out about 2 miles in front of our lines & relieve the 83rd New Y. V. who were on Pickets. I tell you the front of our lines look diff. from what it dit when we left it after 4 days hard work in skirmishing &c. the trees are all felled and our position now is this:

(Pickets)

(Woods)

Ravine and Open field

Fortifications

Videttes Our Army Videttes

James River

Gunboats Gunboats

You will see that the army is protected by the James River in the Rear Gunboats on each side to assist in a most telling manner against any attack and our Centre by heavy fortifications (and ditches) well mounted by heavy Artillery. You will see that the Pickets are stationed in an open field in front of a piece of Woods & a piece of Woods between them & the front of our lines, the Enemies Pickets are about one half mile distance. You will also see that should the enemy attack our Pickets, the policy would be to fall back in the Woods draw them on after us and then fall back in the open field in the imediate front of our lines of fortifications, fighting & drawing them on so as to get them to follow us in the open field when we could get shelter by our Artillery and open fire on the Enemy in such an awfull manner as to make it perfectly destructive to the Enemy having it so fixed at the same time that they could not see our Batteries until they would be on to them. Such were our instructions and of course such our intentions. I got charge with my Comp of the right flank Corner of the woods & a route I posted my Videttes on the dif. high places, made my Hd.Q & Reserve in the Woods, made a nice bed, fixed my Revolver and after

cooking a Cup of Coffee & smoking my pipe sitting with 2 of my videttes in front untill about 11 o clock I laid down and had a nice refreshing & comfortable sleep unconscience of any danger, it so happened that nothing disturbed our folks that night, after Breakfast Orderly Wallick and myself made a Reconoitre in front for about a mile thought we discovered some Rebels &c sat down by a nice Spring under an apple tree and after refreshing ourselves with Water, we quitely marched back where the boys were laughing and enjoying themselves and where I found Dr. Ebright who had come out all the way out to see wether I got any news from home, he being allmost out of his head having received a few lines by a Soldier who passed through Hudson, from that fool Minor T. Ames, stating that when he left Millersburg that Morning, the Doctors little boy, was not expected to live another hour and I have no doubt I shall find him dead when I come home at 4 P.M. The letter was dated the 8th and the doctor had not heard from his folks since and I tell you my dear, that when I showed him in your letter of the 13th his little boy was getting better, he felt like a new man. In the afternoon we were relieved and back to our camp without the slightest accident or trophy.

Orders are now for officers to have no trunks, men to carry every thing on their backs, and every indications go

to show a forward movement of some kind is in contemplation, We had the same Orders last week but as yet no movement, I shall most likely send my trunk and all my things home by Express. Lt. Chapman has been relieved from the Q.M. ship & has rejoined his Company. Lt. Childs is somewhat under the weather and excused from duty. Leroy G. Osborn, M. J. Lemon, B. Middough, Peter Leiser, Geo. Relley, Isaac J. Miller are sick here, all but the 1st & last named are "Gesht" & always sick about fighting or duty time. I am first rate again, as good as new in fact, since I got your letter. I suppose Uncle Joseph & mother are gone & you feel lonesome, but keep up, by Fall I will be home and if once at home shall stay at home with you my dear & with my good Hamlin, Lizzie, Mosey, & Hattie superintend their raising & education & will endeavor to amend in a manner to repay you my love partly for the many unpleasant hours & days I have caused you, by showing you the undivided, unflinching and unyielding love of your ever true

Marcus

Would I not like to see my little Hattie though? Eh?

Camp 5/1. O. V. July 23/62

My dear Wife & good Children!

Although I have three times acknowledged receipt of your very dear and kind letter of the 18th yet as I have not rec^d any since I might as well tell you again that in the absence of any other letter from you, I read this 3 or 4 times daily.

I am very well and really nothing to complain of, I feel much better every day & nothing but a little "to few letters from home" ails me. The boys are generally improving. Except Peter Geiser, Benj. Middough, Geo Shesky & Pink Lemmon who are Mesopias who I will discharge & send home

as also Leroy Osborn who is getting quite weakly. Several of the other boys are sick among them Isaac J. Miller one of the 3 brothers who is very sick. You must not say anything about the first ones what I said to you, as of course I want them to come home and give a good account of their Capt. We are as far as the Officers are concerned comparatively good times, I am Officer of the day, to day again, if only I could get a letter from home once a day or every 2 days I would feel bully. or if the other arrangement could be accomplished I could of course feel better still, as it would give me a chance to come home besides being promoted which would be a rather nice thing. The walking in this hot

weather is about the only thing
I dread, this however I can do
to if necessary but I rather not.

As for the fighting I feel per-
fectly easy, I think good God will
protect me, when we had that
attack of the Rebels the other night
and the firing was the hottest, I
really felt no more fear than I
would at home. I to day wrote
to Miss Amanda Albin returning
that very pretty letter of Introduction
she gave me, which I forgot to deliver
for which I feel sorry as her brother
in law is a man of great influence
in Washington. I would like to see
the Holmer Co. Farmer which had my
letter from Washington in, I under-
stand the Republicans do not
like it, am very sorry, as I
did not intend saying anything
to which any good man can take

Exceptions. I wish you would
put up a Farmer & a Republican
put 2 penny Postage Stamps
on & send it to me. We get
no Papers from home.

Wife John to act for me if he
can not get a Col. ship maybe
Lt. Col or Major. though my
Chance for Major would not
be had if only Buerstenbinder
was disposed, but if nothing better
I will try and stand it till
Fall anyhow. if I keep as well
as I am now. Tell Hamlin
Lizzie & Nancy to be good Children
and Kiss Hattie my little dove
for me. give my love to Elizabeth
and if perchance Brother Joseph
should be in Millersburg yet tell
him I love him still

Ever your true loving

Marcus

Camp 67th O.V. July 23/62

My dear wife & good children!

Although I have three times acknowledged receipt of your very dear and kind letter of the 13th yet I have not read any since I might as well tell you again that in the absence of any other letter from you, I read this 3 or 4 times daily.

I am very well and really nothing to complain of, I feel much better every day & nothing but a little "too few letters from home" ails me. The boys are generally improving except Peter Leiser, Benj. Middough, Geo. Skelley & Pink Lemmon who are meshofas who I will discharge & send home as also Leroy Osborn who is getting quite weekly. Several of the other boys are sick among them Isaac J. Miller one of the 3 brothers who is very sick. You must not say anything about the first ones what I said to you, as of of course I want them to come home and give a good account of their Capt. We are as far as the Officers are concerned in comparatively good times, I am Officer of the day, to day again, if only I could get a letter from home once a day or every 2 days I would feel bully or if the other arrangement could be accomplished I could of course feel better still, as it would give me a chance to come home besides being promoted which would be a rather nice thing. The walking in this hot weather is about the only thing I tread, this however I can do to if necessary but I rather not.

As for the fighting I feel perfectly easy, I think good God will protect me, when we had that attack of the Rebels the other night and the firing was the hottest, I really felt no more fear than I would at home. I to day wrote to Miss Amandah Albin returning that very pretty letter of Introduction she gave me, which I forgot to deliver for which I feel sorry as her brother in law is a man of great influence in Washington. I would like to see the Holmes Co. Farmer which had my letter from Washington in, I understand the Republicans do not like it, am very sorry, as I dit not intend saying anything to which any good man can take exceptions. I wish you would put up a Farmer & a Republican put 2 penny Postage Stamps on & send it to me. We get no Papers from home.

Urge Cohn to act for me if he can not get a Col. ship maybe Lt. Col. or Major though my chance for Major would not be bad if only Buerstenbinder was disposed, but if nothing better I will try and stand it till Fall anyhow if I keep as well as I am now. Tell Hamlin Lizzie & Mosey to be good children and kiss Hattie my little dove for me give my love to Elizabeth and if perchance Brother Joseph should be in Millersburg yet tell him I love him still.

Ever your true & loving

Marcus

Camp 67th U. S. July 24

My sweet dear Wife
my lovely Children!

In what
little time I have to
day I would only say
I recd your good letter
written when you had
the blues a little on the
17th & part on the 18th. I
was happy indeed to hear
you were all well & sorry
to hear Hamlin & Lizzy
were unwell. Since the
scout for ~~me~~ is in Muller bay
I tremble every time get a
letter for fear some of
my dear children may
be sick

Your letter was as your
letters allways are a
messenger of peace &
happiness, God grant
you will ever be permitted
to be a messenger of happy
intelligence to me.

I am to day, "Field
Officer of the day" and
just got from an
Excursion of visiting
the pickets & outpost.
Every thing is quite in
front of our line as a
Sunday morning in
Millersburg. I feel
real good & am of
late very contented
with my situation
more so than I have
been for W^o. if I
only had about 30

More men in my Comp
I would consider myself
happy, I dit for awhile
think I might maybe
ping in some of those
new Regts as Col or
so, but such is not
the case, Ohio wants those
in who have enjoyed
the quietude of a winter
behind their shores
with their families, instead
of those who have stood
the hardships of a mountain
Campaign, but I do
think now, that I
will not leave the
Service untill I have
advanced a step or
two at all events.

Dr Ebrigt feels very
unhappy about his
boy, he can not bear

him, I was to see him
yesterday and spent
all day with him had
most a splendid dinner
he is 2 miles from here
and he is a friend of
mine indeed. Of my
boys 13 are unfit
for duty. Diarrhea &
fever. I feel as well
as ever. I dit, thank
God, Do not think I
will advance for
3 or 4 weeks at least
I must go out. good
bye may God bless
you and my darling
all, is the prayer of
Your Ever true
Marcus
For the Children all.

Camp 67th O.V. July 24 [1862]

My sweet dear Wife
my lovely Children!

In what little time I have to day I would only say I recd your good letter written when you had the blues a little on the 17 & part on the 18th. I was happy indeed to hear you were all well & sorry to hear Hamlin & Lizzie were unwell. Since the Scarlet fever is in Millersburg I tremble every time [I] get a letter for fear some of my dear children may be sick. Your letter was as your letters always are a messenger of peace & happiness. God grant you will ever be permitted to be a messenger of happy intelligence to me.

I am to day "Field Officer of the day" and just ret'd from an Excursion of visiting the pickets & outposts. Everything is quite in front of our line as a Sunday morning in Millersburg. I feel real good & am of late very contented with my situation more so than I have been for Mos [months]. If I only had about 30 more men in my Comp I would consider myself happy. I dit for awhile think I might maybe sing in some of those new Regts as Col or so, but such is not the case. Ohio puts those in who have enjoyed the quietude of a winter behind their stoves with their families, instead of those who have stood the hardships of a mountain Campayne, but I do think now that I will not leave the Service untill

I have advanced a step or two at all events.

Dr. Ebright feels very unhappy about his boy. He can not hear him, I was to see him yesterday and spent all day with him, had most a splendid Dinner he is 2 miles from here and he is a friend of mine indeed. Of my boys 13 are unfitt for duty Diareah & fever. I feel as well as ever I dit, thank God, Do not think will advance for 3 or 4 weeks at least. I must go out good bye, may God bless you and my darlings all, is the prayers of

AMERICAN JEWISH
Your ever true
ARCHIVES
Marcus

Kiss the children all.



Sunday Morning 27/62

Address all your letters

C. O. 67th U. S. Ferry^d Brigade
Picks Division
Keyes Army Corps
Army Potomac

My dear and most beloved Wife & Children

I do not know that I ever felt any better since I was in the Army than I do this A. M. though I got up at 5 o'clock with somewhat of a head ache which after eating my hard cracker and coffee I slept away again; the reason why I feel good are two fold, the 1st and most important of all, the general refugator of my feelings, was your good and kind letter of Sunday last announcing the good health of you and our dear ones, the 2nd reason is, that I yesterday, gained the greatest Victory in a military point of view, which I ever expected to gain which I will now relate to you and tho' it may seem trifling to you, to me, it gave as much satisfaction as though I would have received a military promotion
Yesterday morning we read Orders

to get our Companies ready for inspection, Review and Brigade Drill to appear outside of the Fortifications before Brig. Gen. Ferry and Adj. Major Gen. Peck.

After considerable swearing and confusion at 8 A.M. we marched out in front of our Streets, formed line to Battle & when so formed the acting Adj. St. Brock, came and told me that I was in command of the Regt. as Maj. Bond and Capt. Comnager were both sick, that this piece of intelligence, compared me, is scarcely necessary to state here, but when I tell you that I felt nervous and scared I am not exaggerating had I known the fact before, I think quite likely I should have been mad but here I was, & could not get out of it, I sent the Adj. over to Brig. Gen. Ferry begging of him to excuse our Regt. under the Circumstances but "no go" I labored between hope and fear, but would have been willing to sell out at a very, very low figure. We started and as we arrived at Brigade Hd. Quarters the Adjutant Gen. told me I must get a horse, I sent back and got Col. Norris' Horse (of course you know ere this the Col. is home on leave) and I think as soon as I was mounted I felt "better"

We arrived safely at the place designated where several Regiments were already drawn up in line and in a little while I got my Regt. formed on the proper place and in good shape which gave me some encouragement. Sometime after that The Brigadier & Major Genl. arrived and were present in proper manner when they got the troops ready for inspection and review which passed off all right. After that the Comd^{rs} of Regts were ordered to appear before Genl. Peck, who recd. them very kindly and informed them that he intended to go through a series of Brigade Drill. I do not believe I felt as gay as I have felt previous to that time frequently, in the first place Genl. Peck through some source or other had the name of being very ^{rough} and fierce in the first place neither our Regt. nor myself ever did or saw any drill of the kind before however I started having however by this time worn off a great deal of my fear and excitement, and I was perfectly cool. I do not intend particularizing the diff. evolutions and military manœuvring we went through, as I could not if I would, neither would they be interesting if I could, but suffice it to say, that I passed through all of

them, "without giving one solitary wrong
command," and without one
mistake made by my Regiment
in the 4 hours drill. Myself and
Regiment were complimented by
The General four times publicly
during the drill and since it
is over I rec^d the universal
comment by both officers and
men of our Regt in the most flat-
tering terms, even the unkind
friends to a man, I tell you it
makes me feel good, and yet I
dare not say so to anybody else
but you, as it would feel like
blowing, but you my love will rejoice
with me. I gave every command
loud, long and plain and the men
acted with an alacrity not often
shown in our Regt. I am still
in command and if I shall stay
so far some time I will have
chance to learn something. You have
never said anything in regard to our
fearful night attack, dit You never
get my letter giving you a description
of it? We are having comparatively
spoke easy times, go out Picket
once a week and the boys
get out guard about twice a week
I act as ~~the~~ regimental
Officer of the day once a week
Brigade Officer of the day about
once a week.

Our Camp regulations are as follows.
Reveille at 5 A.M. Sick Call
at 6 A.M. Breakfast Call at
6.30 A.M. Guard mounting at
7 A.M. Company Drill at
7.30 A.M. Recall from drill
at 9.00 A.M. Company Inspection
at 10 A.M. Orders Call at
11 A.M. Dinner Call at 12.45
5. P.M. Battalion Drill until
7 and at 7 Dress Parade
7.30 Supper Call. Tattoo and
Roll Call 9. P.M. Tap 9.30.
From the above regulations which
are very strictly kept, you will
see that we have something to do
all along. Except between the hours
of 10 A.M. to 5.30 P.M. during
which time "Dinner" is the only
labor performed, we are having about
a dozen ^{or} Springs along the
Five Banks which gives us good
Water. Except during the "flooding of
the tide" at which time we can
get no water fit to drink as it
overflows our Springs, but it
does not stay in long enough
to cause any inconvenience
to us. Our "grub" is as varied
as the kind as it is in the time.
Sometimes we have, Potatoes
Onions, Tomatoes, Pickles, fresh
Beef, Ham, Cheese, Ginger Cakes
Pickled Beef & pork, Soft & hard
bread, Corn Meal and flour.

of which we make Nap Jacks, Corn Cake
& mush while at other times and
very frequently we have nothing
but Salt Pork, Beans Rice
hard Crackers. & Coffee.

My Appetite has been for a
week past Exceedingly vicious
perfectly unmanageable at meal
times which I attribute to my
Excellent State of health and if
I hear frequently from home I run
of nothing to dampen my Spirits
but make myself as happy as
happy.

Col. Voris will no doubt call
on you, if so he can tell you all
about me and if you could send
me your Photograph and that
of the Children on one Card
I would be as happy as folks
generally and do so, you have
no Idea what a handsome
Photograph you would make.

My boys are getting much
better I have however still nine
on the sick list here with me.
I hear Geo. Weigand came
home discharged, I am truly
sorry for that as I am afraid
it will raise a Stampede among
my German, who will shortly
all get sick and all want
furlough or discharge.

I think I in two or three days we
will get 2 mo. pay again, if so
will send home.

Our usual affairs in Camp
are so regular that if you give
a description once you have
it at all times, yet I write
to you my dear so that you
may have something to read
that as would be of interest
to you would unquestionably
seem perfectly "stale" to an
outsider. Oil Voss has gone
home with the intention not to
return unless he gets matters satis-
factorily adjusted for the Regt.
I do sincerely hope, he may be
successful. We think now that
I do not apprehend there will be a
forward movement for some time
unless it would be 8 or 10 miles up
the river and to Alvern Hill.

The days here are exceedingly hot
but the nights pleasant and refreshing,
so that there is no difficulty in
sleeping but should we be compelled
to march much in day time, I think
it would be "rather unpleasant".

I this week sent the young chief
Tarn McCallan in Company with
the Veterans Hinzelman & Sumner
whose Army Corps he received.
The Gen as well as friend was
truly a rare sight, the former a
well looking specimen of humanity

The latter a success of military service
I have not seen, but one citizen
and that one of the general mass
massion, since I came here, she
I presume the wife of some Officer

The Country bears the marks of
a Settlement of Aristocracy, where
the masses are led by the inmates
of a few grand mansions

Tell Hamlin that he shall
have his \$5 anyhow, even if he did
not get most head marks as he was
"Sacking Wood" but he must be a good
boy and mind his "Mamma". Peggy must
have \$3 or \$5 which ever you think
she deserves and also according to
her promises of future good conduct

Mommy must be a good boy at the
table, else papa will put him in
the penitentiary all day when he comes
home. "Fattie and dear Pet" you
must wait as you would have her
& all I can do, at for the present
is the promise of my cordial as-
sistance when I get home.

I wished I would know for
certain whether Uncle Jerry is in
Mby yet I would like to write
him a long letter. I only ask you
to keep in good spirit & bear all
like a good true patriotic woman
and with the help of God all will
be right. Give my love to Cohn Family &
all friends. Truly Yours, firmly loving
Mickey

Sunday Morning [July] 27/62

Adress all your letters

Co. C 67th O.V.

Ferry's Brigade

Pecks Division

Keyes Army Corps

Army Potomac

My dear and much beloved Wife & Children,

I do not know that I ever felt any better since I am in the Army than I do this A.M. Though I got up at 5 o'clock with somewhat of a head ache which after eating my hart crackers and coffee I slept away again; the reason why I feel good are two fold, the 1st and most important of all, the general refregator of my feelings, was your good and kind letter of Sunday last announcing the good health of you and our dear ones, the 2nd reason is, that I yesterday, gained the greatest Victory in a military point of view, I ever expected to gain which I will now relate to you and tho it may seem trifling to you, to me it gave as much satisfaction as though I would have received a military promotion.

Yesterday morning we recd Orders to get our Companies ready for inspection, Review and Brigade Drill to appear outside of the Fortifications before Brig Genl Ferry and Actg Major Genl Peck.

After considerable swearing and confusion at 8 A.M. we marched out in front of our Streets, formed line-o-Battle & when so formed the acting Adjt. Lt Brock, came and told me that I was in command of the Regt as Maj. Bond and Senior Capt. Commager were both sick, that this piece of intelligence confused me, is scarcely necessary to state here, but when I tell you that I felt nervous and scared I am not exaggerating had I known the fact before, I think quite likely I should have been sick but here I was, & could not get out of it. I send the Adjt over to Brig. Genl Ferry begging of him to excuse our Regt. under the Circumstances but, "no go" I labored between hope and fear, but would have been willing to sell out at a very, very low figure. We started and as we arrived at Brigade Hd. Quarters The Adjutant Genl told me I must get a horse. I send back and got Col Voris's Horse (of course you know ere this the Col is home on leave) and I think as soon as I was mounted I felt "better"

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right. After that the Comders of Regts were ordered to appear before Genl Peck, who recd them very kindly and informed them that he intented to go through a series of Brigade Drill. I do not believe I felt as gay as I have felt previous to that time frequently, in the first place Genl Peck through some source or other had the name of being very cross and fierce in the 2nd place neither our Regt nor myself ever dit or saw any drill of the kind before however I started having however by this time wore off a great deal of my fear and excitement and I was perfectly cool. I do not intend particularizing the dif. evolutions and military maneuvering we went through, as I could not if I would, neither would they be interesting if I could, but suffice it to say, that I passed through all of them "without giving one solitary wrong command" and without one mistake made by my Regiment in the 4 hours drill. Myself and Regiment were complimented by the General four times publicly during the drill and since it is over I recd the universall comment by both officers and men of our Regt in the most flattering terms, even Buerstenbinders friends to a man. I tell you it makes me feel good, and yet I not dare say so to anybody else but you as it would feel like blowing, but you my love

will rejoice with me. I gave every command loud, long and plain and the men acted with an alacrity not often shown in our Regt. I am still in Command and if I shall stay so for some time I will have chance to learn something. You have never said anything in regard to our fearfull night attack, dit you never get my letter giving you a discription of it? We are having comparatively speaken easy times, go on Picket once a week and the boys get on guard about twice a week. I get on as regimental officer of the day once a week, Brigade Officer of the day about once a week.

Our camp regulations are as follows:

Reveille at 5 A.M. Sick Call at 6 A.M. Breakfast Call at 6:30 A.M. Guardmounting at 7 A.M. Company Drill at 7:30 A.M. Recall from drill at 9:30 A.M. Company Inspection at 10 A.M. Orderly Call at 11 A.M. Dinner Call at 12 P.M. 5 ½ P.M. Battalion Drill untill 7 and at 7 Dress Parade. 7:30 Supper Call. Tattoo and Roll Call 9 P.M. Taps 9:30 from the above regulations which are very strictly kept, You will see that we have something to do all along except between the hours of 10 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. during which time, "Dinner" is the only labor performed, we are having about a dozen Springs dug along the River Banks which gives us good Water except during the "flooding of the tide" at which time we can get no water fit to drink as it overflows our Springs, but it does not stay in long enough to

cause any inconvenience to us. Our "grubb" is as variagated in kind as it is in the time. Sometimes we have Potatoes, Onions, Tomatoes, Pickles, fresh Beef, Ham, Cheese, Ginger Cake, Pickled Beef & pork, soft & hard Bread, Corn Meal and flour of which we make Slap Jacks, Corn Cakes & mush while at other times and very frequently we have nothing but Salt Pork, Beans Rice hard Crackers & Coffee.

My appetite has been for a week past exceedingly vicious perfectly unmanageble at meal times which I attribute to my excellent state of health and if I hear frequently from home I know of nothing to dampen my spirits or make me feel otherwise but happy.

Col. Voris will no doubt call on you, if so he can tell you all about me and if you could send me your Photograph and that of the children on one Card I would be as happy as folks generally are do so, you have no Idea what a hansome Photograph you would make.

My boys are getting much better. I have however still nine on the sick list here with me. I learn Geo. Weigand [Weigam] came home discharged. I am truly sorry for that as I am afraid it will raise a Stampede among my Germans, who will shortly all get sick and all want furloughs or discharges.

I think in two or three days we will get 2 mos [months] pay again, if so will send home.

Our usual affairs in Camp are so regular that if you give a discription once you have it at all times. Yet I write to you my dear so that you may have something to read such as would be of interest to you would unquestionably seem perfectly "stale" to an outsider. Col Voris has gone home with the intention not to return unless he gets matters satisfactorily adjusted for the Regt. I do sincerely hope he may be successfull. As thinks now look I do not apprehend there will be a forward movement for some time unless it would be 8 or 10 miles up the river on Malvern Hill.

The days here are exceedingly hot but the nights pleasant and refreshing so that there is no difficulty in sleeping but should we be compelled to march much in day time, I think it would be "rather unpleasant"

I this week saw the young chieftain McClellan in Company with the Veterans Heintzelman & Sumner whose Army Corps he reviewed. The Genl as well as Review was truly a rare sight, the Former a noble looking specimen of humanity The latter a success of military science. I have not seen but one citizen and that one of the femal persuasion, since I came here, she I presume the wife of some officer.

The Country bears the marks of a Settlement of Aristocracy, where the masses are led by the inmates of a few grand mansions.

Tell Hamlin that he shall have his \$5 anyhow, even if he dit not get most head marks as he was "sacking Wool" but he must be a good boy and mind his "Ma" Lizzie must have \$3 or \$5 which ever you think she deserves and also according to her promises of future good conduct.

Mosey must be a good boy at the table, else papa will put him in the parlor all day when he comes home. Hattie our dear "Pet" you must train as you would have her & all I can do for the present is the promise of my cordial assistance when I get home.

I wished I would know for certain wether Oncle Josey is in Mbg yet I would like to write him a long letter. I only ask you to keep in good spirit & bear all like a good true patriotic woman and with the help of God all will be right. Give my love to Cohn & family & all friends.

Truly your friend and loving

Marcus

Camp in the Field on the Banks
of the James River near Harrison
Landing Va July 27 1862

My dear Sisters & Brothers Friends!

Not that I have thought
any thing of your wishes can it be at-
tributed to any lack of desire of keeping
up communication with, that I have
not written to you since I returned to
my command but owing to the force
of circumstances and the many
changes we had to undergo.

I joined my Command at
the celebrated Manassas & had
scarcely recd. the welcome of my com-
rades and distributed the letters
I had for them from their friends
at home when orders came "get ready
to move" and for the first time did
our poor boys after marching under
Gen. Shields from the Valley to Stras-
sburg & from thence to the Valley
from there to the Rappahannock
from thence to Manassas a dis-
tance of 550 miles inside of 4 weeks
in pain and pain fighting with
hungry Monarchs & marching without
shoes that the prints of their
bloody feet was left on the road
for the first time in fact since
they have been in service, that
they got a chance to ride in
the Cars.

We passed over the famous Bull Run
to Alexandria where the "boys" had
a chance to see the Staris where
the gallant Col Elsworth braved
his last, after stopping over night
in Alexandria we were embarked
in old rotten Gov^t Transport
for the Fortress Monroe & the
James River. On our way to
Fortress Monroe the Barge
Delaware where 7 Comp^s of our
Reg^t were embarked wrecked
and we had several killed
and 7 seriously wounded.

I was with mine and two
other Comp^s on the U. S. Herald
and in the night we picked
the poor 7 barge on the old Barge
up & transferred them to and I
after they had lost every thing
most in Clothing which although
a month hence has not been
refunded to them & most of
them are nearly naked yet.

At Fortress Monroe we
stopped 4 hours when we pro-
ceeded up the Chesapeake & in
the James on our way we passed
the Rip Raps, Newport News
the wrecks of the ill fated Ships
Cumberland & Congress so
gallantly but vainly defended
against the late Monitor
"Merimack".

We arrived here & the 2nd night we were put
in the advance of all the forces & during
the night or rather a little before
day we were attacked by a band
of rebel Cavalry we had 2 killed &
5 wounded, fortunately not 1 of
my Company, it would have made you
laugh to see my ~~my~~ me sword in hand
and in my stocking feet encourage
& commanding my boys just as
I jumped off my bed of solid earth
and I might as well here say the
most fearful of all was a night
attack is the most horrid.

Since that time nothing of any
note has transpired, the regular routine
of guard, picket, fatigue duty,
Regimental Brigade & Division Officer
of the day has been all except Camp
& Regimental inspections, except
yesterday to me a memorable day.

Our Col has been since the 23 of march
under arrest, and not with the Regt, our
Lt Col 4 days ago got leave of absence for
20 days left, our Major and Senior
Capt. are sick and yesterday at 7 A.M.
we recd. Orders to appear for inspection, Review
and Brigade Drill before the Acting
Major Genl. of the Division Genl. Peck

I endeavored to get excused for the Regt
as the command fell on me being 2nd Sqr
Capt. in the Regt. but no go, tremblingly I
mounted the Horse commenced getting
the Regt. ready, told the boys I wanted
them to ^{do} as well as they could & assist me

After a march of 3 miles we arrived at
the place designated and formed in
line with the Regiments who had
already been there as soon as the
other Regiments came, Inspection
Harris commenced which I got
along with as well as any other
Colonel, then the Genl. called
all the Commanders of Regts,
together & told them he was going
to give us a thorough Brigade
Drill, which he did Evolutions &
maneuverings I never met with
Regt ever had before, but the Genl
explained every movement was
before he commenced it and the con-
sequence of all was that the Genl.
complimented me three different
times publicly and my Regiment
twice, I gave the Command plain
loud & distinct. The boys were
elated & gave me 3 Cheers & speak
in the highest terms of me, Officers as
well as men, it was indeed, a triumph
for me. I am as hearty as a buck
could eat plenty of nice fine
"Victuals" if I only had them.
Hard Crackers, pickled meat
& coffee is a real lot, the only thing
I am afraid of, is that I was off my
trot on the Cracker fields will take
me for an old horse. In a few days
will write you a letter about the
location. Generals & c.
Ever your true
Marcus

Camp in the Field on the Banks
of the James River near Harissons
Landing Va July 27 1862

My dear Sister Brother & friends!

Not that I have thought any the less of you neither can it be attributed to any lack of desire of keeping up communication with, that I have not written to you since I returned to my command but owing to the force of circumstances and the many changes we had to undergo.

I found my command at the celebrated Manasses & had scarcely recd the welcome of my noble boys and distributed the letters I had for them from their friends at home when orders came "get ready to move" and for the first time dit our poor boys after marching under Genl Shields from the Valley to Fredericksburg & from thence to the Valley & from there to the Rappahanock from thence to Manasses a distance of 550 miles inside of 4 weeks in rain and shine fighting with hungry stomachs & marching without shoes that the prints of their bloody feet was left on the road for the first time in fact since they have been in service, that they got a chance to ride in the Cars.

We passed over the famous Bull Run to Alexandria where the "boys had a chance to the see the stairs where the gallant Col Ellsworth breathed his last, after stopping over night in

Alexandria we were embarked in old rotten Govt Transport for the Fortress Monroe & the James River. On our way to Fortress Monroe the Barge Delaware where 7 Comps of our Regt were embarked wrecked and we had several killed and 7 seriously wounded.

I was with mine and two other Comps on the U.S.S. Herald and in the night we picked the poor boys on the old Barge up & transferred them to our Sh after they had lost every thing most in Clothing which although a month hence has not been refunded to them & most of them are nearly naked yet.

At Fortress Monroe we stopped 4 hours when we proceeded up the Chesapeake & in the James on our Way we passed the Rip Raps, Newport News the wrecks of the ill fated Ships Cumberland & Congress so gallantly but vainly defended against the late Monster "Merrimack".

We arrived here & the 2nd night we were put in the advance of all the forces & during the night or rather a little before day we were attacked by a band of Rebel Cavalery. We had 2 killed & 8 wounded, fortunately not 1 of my Company, it would have made you laugh to see me sword in hand and in my stocking feet encourage & commanding my boys just as I jumped off my bed of solid "earth" and I might as well here say the most fearfull of all War a night attack is the most horrid.

Since that time nothing of any note has transpired, the regular routine of guard, picket, fatigue duty, Regimental

Brigade and Division Officer of the day has been all except Comp & Regimental inspection, except Yesterday to me a memorable day. Our Col has been since the 23 of March under arrest, and not with the Regt our Lt. Col 4 days ago got leave of absence for 20 days & left, our Major and senior Capt. are sick and yesterday at 7 A.M. we recd Orders to appear for Inspection, Review and Brigade Drill before the Acting Major Genl of the Division, Genl Peck.

I endeavored to get excused for the Regt as the command fell on me being 2nd senior Capt. in the Regt but no go, tremblingly I mounted the Horse commenced getting the Regt ready, told the boys I wanted them to do as well as they could & assist me

After a march of 3 miles we arrived at the place designated and formed in line with the Regiments who had allready been there as soon as the other Regiments came, Inspection & Review commenced which I got along with as well as any other Colonel, then the Genl called all the Commanders of Regt together & told them he was agoing to give us a thorough Brigade Drill, which he dit Evolutions & maneuverings I never nor my Regt ever saw before, but the Genl explained every movement was before he commenced it and the consequences of all was that the Genl complimented me three diferent times publicly and my Regiment twice, I gave the command plain loud & distinct. The boys were elated & gave me 3

cheers & speak in the highest terms of me, officers as well as men, it was indeed, a triumph for me. I am as hearty as a buck could eat plenty of nice & fine "victuals" if I only had them. "Hard Crackers, pickled meat & coffee is our lot, the only thing I am afraid of, is that I wear off my teeth on the Crackers & folks will take me for an old horse. In a few days will write you a letter about the location, Generals &c.

Ever your true Marcus



July 27 - 1862

My lovely and good Wife:

Twenty nine years
ago you were ushered into existence
and by an Almighty Providence and
a kind parent, raised & brought up
to fill your predestinated function
"as my wife, my joy and comfort"
for that, thanks, thanks to the heavens,
by father of the universe. I have to
day once written to you and said
nothing about this thinking it might
make you sad, but I can not let
the day pass and for my sake
and those whom we jointly love
with all the ardour & Candour
you fixcness, be joyful when
you get this and just make
up your mind that the good

^{my} I packed above, will protect us and
many, many will be the house
of joy and comfort for us yet.
I have written you so
much in mind of this. I have written
so many other letters that I will
close this. May God protect
you and the children & grant us
happy days after our unhappy and
distracted country may safely
be rescued from the vile hands of
traitors and Rebels at war for
which I am willing to fight, so
that my children may enjoy, as
we did, previous to the breaking out
of this accursed Rebellion, "a happy
and united Country". God grant
that enough strong arms and willing
hearts may be found in the loyal
States to do this.

Ever your true

Wm. W. Garrison

July 27-1862

My lovely and good Wife!

Twenty nine years ago you were ushered into existence and by an Allwise providence and a kind parent, raised & brought up to fill your predestinated function "as my wife, my joy and comfort" for that, thanks, thanks to the heavenly father of the universe. I have to day once written to you and said nothing about this, thinking it might make you sad, but I can not let the day pass, and for my sake and those whom we jointly love with all the ardour & candor, yea fierceness, be joyfull when you get this and just make up your mind that the good Father above, will protect us and many, many will be the hours of joy and comfort for us yet.

I have written you so much in mine of this A.M. & written so many other letters that I will close this. May God protect you and the children & grant us happy days after our unhappy and distracted country may safely be rescued from the vile hands of traitors and Rebels a work for which I am willing to fight, so that my children may enjoy, as we dit, previous to the breaking out of this accursed Rebellion, "a happy and united Country" God grant that enough strong arms and willing hearts may be found in the loyal States to do this.

Ever your true

Marcus

July 29/62

My dear wife!

We are still at the old place
and I am still well and hearty.

but I have not rec^d. a letter from you
since the one you wrote the 17th —

What made me equal so much in
my last has since proven rather better
some yet pleasant. Having been so
unsuccessful at the Review Inspection
&c, made the Major put me in
formidable command of the Regt.
and I have drilled the Regt.
twice since on our own Barrack
ground and to day I had
them out on Divisional Drill
where Acty Major Gen^l Peck
drilled us again and I must
say if anything, my efforts

have been crowned with more
sucep than ever, but it is
hard work. Lt Chapman
is in Command of the Company
and I of the Regt.

The boys of the regt. are
awfully pleased with their
"new Col" as they call me and if
I must tell the truth, I must
say that I am astonished at
myself to see me go through with
battalion Drill & the general
routine of Com^d of a Regt.

I have nothing new to say
to you only we have been getting
Cabbages, Potatoes and if we
only would get soft Bread
we would get along bully.

We get Ice every day which
enables us to make Ice
Cool Lemonade &c

The mail leaves. I am your ever true
God bless the Children
Marcus

July 29/62

My dear Wife!

We are still at the old place and I am still well and hearty, but I have not recd a letter from you since the one you wrote the 17th.

What made me exult so much in my last has since proven rather burthensome yet pleasant. Having been so successful at the Review Inspection &c, made the Major put me in formidable command of the Rgt and I have drilled the Regt twice since on our own Parade ground and to day I had them out on Division Drill where Actg Major Genl Peck drilled us again and I must say if anything, my efforts have been crowned with more success than ever, but it is hard work. Lt Chapman is in Command of the Company and I of the Regt.

The boys of the regt are awfully pleased with their "new Col" as they call me, and if I must tell the truth, I must say that I am astonished at myself to see me go through with battalion Drill & the general routine of Comdg a Regt.

I have nothing new to say to you only we have been getting cabbage & Potatoes and if we only would get soft Bread we would get along bully.

We get Ice every day which enables us to make Ice cool Lemonade &c.

The mail leaves

I am your ever true

God Bless the children

Marcus