

In Camp at Fairfax Court House June 22nd 1862

Dear Ma

With pleasure to me I take my pen in hand to let you know that your kind and allways welcome letter of the 20th has been received. I wrote you a letter on the 8th and I did not know what to think as my letters all have been answered. The last letter I received from you was on the 8th and you told me that the little money I sent you had been received. I set down and answered the letter right away as I have all of your letters. You say you have been sick. Dear Ma. I am sary very sary but I thank God you am better. Now rest assured your Soldier Boy feels for you allthough he is far far away from those he loves and if need be dye for those he has left behind him. Ma since last you heard from me the army of the Potomac has had work before it. and as pekerly the 6th Army corps which I belong to. as it may be interesting to you I will tell you what we have done and to do so I will consult my diary - Now Saturday June 6th we broke camp and marched to the river bank. there we found the 3rd Division of our Corps over the river they having cross.

under the protection of the artillery which kept
up a most murderous fire on the rebels in their
rifle pits. the news papers have gave you
the number of rebels captured by us it took
very little time for us to lay the bridge as the
boys worked with a will. Our Brigade did
not cross untill the 9th and as soon as we did
they put shovels in our hands to dig on rifle
pits we worked all night at this kind of
work getting no rest at all at day light we
recrossed the river and staid there all day
when night came we crossed the river once
more and staid in line of battle all night
behind our rifle pits when morning came
we was sent on picket to the extreme left
of the line here we staid all day long in open
side of the rebels. on the right of our regiment
they kept popping away at each other but
on our Regimental line there was not a shot
fired. There was one rebel that came in
our line I suppose he got tired of Dooey
we staid on this line of Pickets untill night
when we got relieved there was not one shot

fired at us. after we got relieved we was just picking
our tents to have a good sleep when we received order
to fall in. and go to the rifle pits and protect a
working squad. there was a good deal of growling
as we was in hopes to have a night rest. we had
in the rifle pits all night. unmolested when
morning came and it was one of the longest mornings
I ever saw we got relieved they kept us marching
and countermarching untill 12 O'clock. At the
day time before they gave us any rest. and what
rest we got was in the day time in the Sun
and it was very hot. up all night. and in the
day time so hot one could not sleep this lasted
untill 13th when we recrossed the river our Brigade
the last to cross we crossed in a rain storm the bridge
having hay on it so we would make no noise. it
was about 11 O'clock at night when we crossed.
We slept a mile from the river out of site of the
rebels after we crossed for the night it rained all
the time early next morning we took up our line
of march towards Stafford Court house a distance
of 10 miles we arrived in good order as our boys was
in good spirits we arrived at the Court house about
11 O'clock in the afternoon we staid here untill

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night when our Brigade was ordered to guard
the wagon train. We started just at dusk and
marched all night until we came to a place
about 9 miles from the Court-house here we rested
for about 1/2 of an hour then we started again
and never stopped until we came to Comfries
here we stopped for a little while to rest. we start-
ed from Comfries and marched 26 miles to a
place called Fairfax Station. 3 miles from where
we are now. Some of the boys was so overcome
by the heat that they actually dropped on the
road. This is the hardest march we ever had
since I have been in the army. while coming
along I saw over 20 men from our corps lying on
the road Gun struck. as for our regiment I was
over come by the heat: but they are doing well.
We have been here 4 days and now we are reassembled and
all ready for a brush with the enemy. Our Cavalry
have done well anyhow. Hooker has fetched
this arm of the army in good requisition.
there was heavy firing out by Aldie all day
yesterday I guess our Cavalry has had another
fight. we are ready for a fight. as soon as Lee
wants to try it on so far every thing is all right
in our corps. let the people of the north run the
rebels out of Maryland. for Hooker's army is
so reduced we can not divide our force