

Wm O'Connell
Nov 15th 1864

My Dear Mother

Reached here safely on the 10th inst, and found the Division had gone down on our advance - they went down as far as Middletown; had a little brush with the Banks, capturing about two hundred seventy five prisoners. There has been quite a commotion at head quarters since the order for sending back all able bodied men - Casser has sent back to their companies all of Gen Fitz Lee's Regt, thereby treating him very discourteously to say the least of it - He has around him a set of men, who would block his back if necessary. He is extremely unpopular with the Division, they having been whipped in every fight since he has been with us, they say by his bad management. There will be a universal shout of delight when Gen Lee gets back, which will be in a week I hope - Maj Ferguson is in Staunton very ill with Typhoid Fever - We heard from him last night, and he was not expected to live - I am sorry to hear of it, as he was the best dragoon Genl in the Valley Army - Mack and myself with the rest of the Couriers etc, have been ordered back to our companies and will start back

in half an hour - If Gen Lee does not order us
back, as every body thinks he will I will get a
transport to Artillery as I cant keep myself mounted.
It is the general belief here, that the Campaign in
the Valley is over for the winter. Lee's army Sanderson
is going back for a few days in the neighborhood
to winter. I wish you would make George pay ~~my~~
special attention to my horse, and rub him well,
as he is my staple leg. We are both well - Love
to every body Direct your letters to Gen Lee
No 10 as usual till further notice

affect you

M T Alexander

Your letter was received a few days ago

M T A