

Camp 5th Va. Cav.

Dear Pa

3 August 31st 1863.

Here we are again in Spottsylvania County at our same old Camp about five miles from Fredericksburg, I guess you have heard of our trip before this, I wrote to sister while on board the Satellite, I also sent her a little singing book I captured, we had quite a gay time, very exciting, we expected to have a fight with a Yankee Gun boat - but did not, we only captured three skimmers, one loaded with coal bound for Mains, the others with chains and anchors, we were on water three days and nights - had just what we wanted to eat - Coffee, Sugar, Bacon, Beef, Pickle, Condensed milk, Crackers, we had three meals a day - I was very much pleased with water, and as I wrote Mattie the other day, if some changes are not made in this Regt. I have an idea

of studying up, and trying to get a
transfer to the Navy, I wrote it more
in fear ~~we~~ I have been expecting
a letter from you for some time
concerning what I wrote you, you
said you would write as soon as you
returned from the Association. I
took for granted from your silence
that you had not succeeded. I would
like to hear from you in a day or so,
for I would not be surprised if we
return to Middletown in a few days,
and no telling then when I would be
able to hear from you - for down there
seems out of the world, but the Citizens
were very kind to us would not charge
us any thing for our meals.

By the way, while I think of it, Nell
Elliott was talking away about the "Munk-
cells Bank" the other day, and he let
it slip out that he had about \$10000.
worth of not signed Munkcells Bank notes

given to his mother by Mr. Flannagan
once in New York, to bring ^{home} shortly after-
wards they had a fly up and Mr F. I
guess forgot to ask her for them -
I guess they will come in very well -
won't they? - Tell Ma + Sis that
I received the four letters of them and
three from Nat - when I returned.

Saturday night -

I received the packet indeed I am
very much obliged to you - I will
take splendid care of it - and hope
will be able to do some execution with it.

My finger is still stiff. I have a
very painful boil on my left shoulder
joint - my general health is very good
I think -

I wish you would get my old pistol
from Nelson Thomas -

Champ is in very good order has a
little sore on his back, I was offered
\$1050 - for him the other day but no

go, 3.50, would not get him - Don't

you think it is nearly time for me
to get home? - I don't think I will
run the block again - I may not be
able to get off before Xmas -

No news in Camp - it is reported that
R. E. is going to try Pennsylvania
again -

Write soon, my best love to all
at home, will write them as soon
as I can -

Your aff. Son
Willie

Ad. Gr. 5th Va Cav

Dear Ma

July 15th 1854

Another opportunity affords itself for me to send a few lines home, although I wrote Nancy the other day, I have decided to avail myself of it, knowing that my letters anxiously looked for and joyfully received, indeed I ought to consider myself of great importance, thought of and talked about every hour, is it me or my sadness that is missed? of course it is my sweet self, I tell you I feel "as sweet as peach" this evening, I should like for you to see me, I'm as dirty as a p-i-g-hog, I mean my clothes are, I bathe nearly every day, —

We are still encamped on Linant's Creek and picket on Jerusalem plank road about eight miles from this point, haven't had any fighting since Morgan was wounded, expected to mix with the Yanks yesterday, but had only a little skirmish and established our picket post, where the Yanks drove the 6th Va Cav from right before last. —

We are living quite well now, get Flour,
Meal, Bacon, occasionally Sugar, Coffee, & Beans,
Horses do not get quite enough thought

You know only his lines will do"
As as the Gent is about to leave I
must bid you good morning,

My best love to all at home, I hope
Pa has informed, tell him I should be
happy to hear from him —

With love & respect

Your aff. Son
Willie McLeod

Glorious news from Early today
He is shelling Baltimore & Washington
both at the same time —

We have fine Ice water every day

10d Gr. 5th 2a Cas

Dear Ma

August 30th 1864

Here we are near Bruce Town, well back from Charleston yesterday, for what purpose I cannot imagine, we (our brigade) had a little fight with the Rebels day before yesterday killed one wounded one and captured two, no loss on our side. The Rebels are pressing us a little, perhaps Early will have a fight with them in a day or two. There is no news of any importance that you have not seen, —

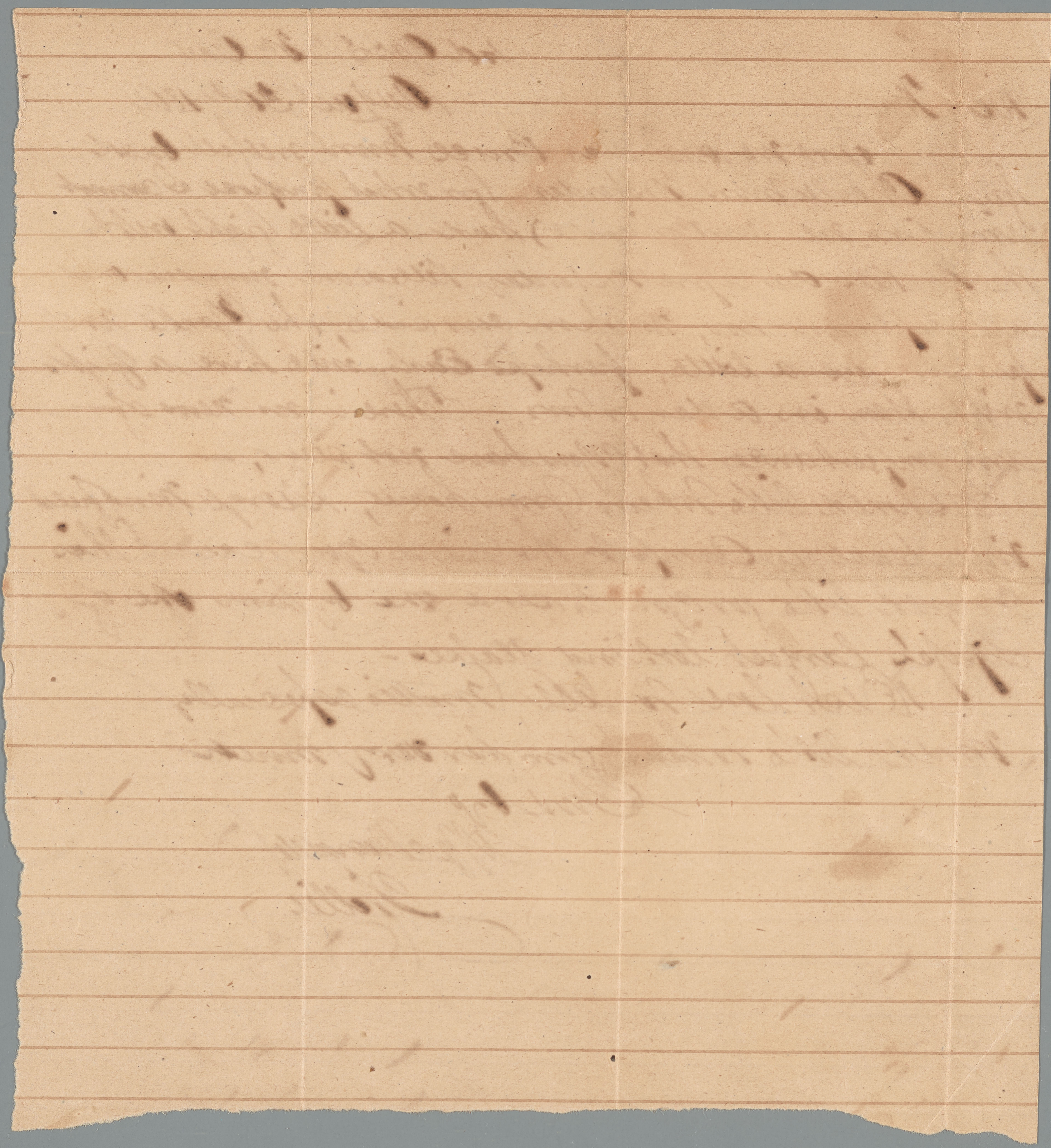
I should like to hear from home, George Winfield will leave for Camp by the time you receive this I should like for you to send me by him one of Loper's largest looking glasses —

Best love to all. Mother especially I would like to hear from her very much

And by

Affectionately

Fellie



Ad. Gr. 5th 20 Car

Sept 11th 1864

Do I dream, or is it a reality? a letter for me? impossible, let's see, yes, Sgt. Maj., ah! I recognize the hand writing, it is my darling sister's, let me open it, I wonder if it brings good news, the letter is from Dear Ma, with an enclosed note from sister, how happy I am to hear from dear old home again, To which of the twain shall I write this rainy Sunday morning? answer the longest first of course; my conscience tells me, so here goes -

Yes, the thick letter from home dated Sept 6th came to hand this morning, it has been read & re-read, and shall be answered immediately, notwithstanding I am am very wet, cold, and a little hungry, for an opportunity affords itself for me to send by private hand, - I am happy to inform you that the report of our falling back is without foundation, it is just the opposite, for Early advanced Gordon's Div. or Brig. I am not certain which - in the direction of Martinsburg night before last, we may yet pay a visit to "My Maryland" & Pennsylvania, our Div. now commanded by Michans is still stationed north west of Winchester between the Valley & Romney pikes, nothing much to do but picket, run from here to Strasburg about once a week in order to exercise our horses and keep them from fatening, which of course they will do, on nothing but hay (on a horn) I am sorry to say Champ is looking quite thin, but think he can stand it till Nov. or Dec. whilst I'm in the horse

question I think it necessary to mention that I think the Cavalry will be disbanded again this winter, therefore if it is in his power, Pa ought to procure forage of some kind, for I guess I will keep Camp at home during the time.

I called at Aunt Annis's the other day she told me that P & M had gone to Charlottesville. They seemed very happy to see me, just as affectionate & kind as could be, perhaps they had a reason so to be - wouldn't let me leave till my horse's coat was filled, insisted I should call often.

I don't know I think I am enjoying myself, as much over in the valley, as I could any other place, for I hardly ever leave Camp, never visit - do nothing but eat, sleep, and attend to my duties. My health & spirits I am happy to say, are now very good since I have heard from old Plut.

I am sorry to hear of Julia Ann's great loss, but is expected, so why mourn, and grieve? - I expect to get a scolding in your next for using the above expressions, but excuse me -

I am happy to hear old Morgan is getting on so finely, hope he will soon be able to make about my kindest regards to him, would like for him to write me, tell me the news, ask him if he has heard from, or seen tra- tra- tra?

I am very much obliged to you for the advice given concerning Pam and myself, I can assure you that I do not consider it a trivial matter, I have remained faithful since the engagement, and ever shall, whether she does or

not, as I have often said this is my first and will
be my last attempt, it would be impossible for me to
love any one else.

Col. Proctor is now in command of the Regt. got tired
of commanding the Brig. Col. Payne of the 4th Mass. Comd the
Brig. Now, all seem sorry Boston gave up the Army.
he is still very kind, seems to like me very much.

You start Pickman off with Geo. Springfield.

Spent only three days around Charleston. Our
fare is very good, flour, Beef & salt, that will do very
well don't you think so?

Tell Pa his letter was looked, and answer. I like
to hear from him occasionally. Jim.

I believe I have told you all the news and
as I am going to church to day I must bring
this document to a close. Write you a few
lines by a messenger, and write a few by Dick.

Wharton. Excuse this dull letter will try to do
better next time.

Said by best love to all.

Write again soon to you all.

Wells

