

Camp of the 142<sup>nd</sup> Regt near the main road  
to Richmond from Williamsburg June 1766

Dear Sister

Your letter was recd. yesterday  
while it was on picket 1 mile from the main  
road towards Richmonds (Hills). June 11<sup>th</sup> 1766  
Regt & the Division 1 Cavalry Regt & 2nd Bullens  
came out here 8 miles from Williamsburg. After  
passing through W. Skirmishes were thrown  
out and kept ahead of us all the way. At  
12<sup>or</sup> our Regt killed one the rest went on. Co  
E was sent out on the left & secured the woods  
and the other companies left as a reserve. At  
Crandor Co. E was taken to the right of the road  
and stationed there during the night. The main  
remainder of the Regt going on about two miles  
Friday we commenced when we were through  
the night. Nothing occurred during the day to  
except of only one Adjutant came up to  
a Rebel sent and brought him in a prisoner.  
At night we moved along in short distances  
and fortified our camp for the night. All was  
quiet as could be. Saturday morning the  
Division moved toward the Chickahominy crossing  
21 miles from W. all but our Regt. Sunday  
at 2 P.M. the Regt came up where we were  
on picket and we fell in with them. We  
went to Richmonds (Hills) 14 miles from  
when we were expecting to find a small  
force of the Reb. but they had gone before  
we came up and the men felt disappointed  
for coming so far and had nothing to do.  
we returned an hour or more and retraced

our ship and came to where we landed  
from at ten o'clock. Making the march of  
28 miles in 8 hours. This fall Lewis said was  
quite down. I felt some pain when we stopped  
but not much. Not a man fell out on the way.  
It was cloudy and quite cool which made us  
greatly surprised. We ought to be here and  
see the fruit trees of all kinds. Cherries are  
ripe and the trees are as large as the  
apple trees in front of our house. The Indians  
here have all a good piece of corn planted and  
grown. Some fields of corn show and so on so  
across in it and when we go to the houses  
we find them mostly deserted by the men  
but the work shows they have been here and  
left when we came. The best hunters  
as they are called are seen occasionally here  
and supposed to be the inhabitants that live  
here. They say before last some men concealed  
in the woods where we were and were no  
doubt trying to find out our force. They  
would not come near enough to give us a  
chance to take them till last night when  
one crossed the sound and fired about  
three rods from the post I was on. but  
it was so dark I could not see him. He  
passed me just from the end of our  
and the next one had our fire at him  
he lay on the ground and was our out of  
the way of all harm. They are a hard  
set to capture as they are so well acqua-  
inted with the country. I forgot to say  
I was at a Creek house with 8 men  
guarding. There have been only one here

or and He has two good looking Daughters  
and a smart woman but they are the  
stringest of Quakers and do not deny it  
I being very so settle the man to Ennis  
a rich man's house and every poor man  
in the country have his best pig and chicken  
The man made up our things and sending  
to draw the fat of the land and thus for  
they have carried it out. Turkey's Chicken  
and sheep & pigs for food. Yesterday  
I helped to kill a nice fat pig belonging  
to the man down road Ennis and he  
must keep the cut closed up or we will  
find his cattle. The first four days we  
went out for our fine party here. we  
brought only two long curtains with us and  
small ones at that and sandy when  
we reached all we had after breakfast  
until Monday morning was two hard socks  
and then we dressed our own curtain  
of the people here. To day we are two  
days out here. and we may stay here  
some time yet to good many reports on  
Cherry Hill. Some say we are making a  
point to keep Lee from moving and  
others say Lee has moved and is between  
Baltimore & Washington and that we  
are very critical our towards Richmond  
but I know found the only way to tell  
what what reports are true or when  
they are false. We cannot cut down with  
only our Rubber blankets. leaving our  
knapsacks in camp or packing to go  
in again in two days. We have no change

of clothes. we can anything we need. I must  
out to get this paper of the <sup>125000</sup> cotton and  
some envelopes by paying a good price. The  
people here have plenty of Corn and Milk  
and meat but no Salt which makes it  
bad for them. Salt is 20.00 \$ Dollars per  
bush and Sugar 1.00 \$ per pound coffee  
2.00 \$ Sugar 1.50 \$ 8.00 \$ for a bush of Turb  
on Confederate ground and about half is  
our money. Chief Wheeler has just arrived  
very late Lee and Hooker have moved &  
Hooker is in the air of Lee and they have  
had another battle and Hooker whipped him  
but I do not believe it. only hope it is  
true. Since we cannot out here I have  
been very well and hope I shall remain  
so. My health is not very well. The  
rest are mostly well. I have written  
this in a hurry and it is written in very  
badly and hope you will excuse it. I  
recd a letter from Martha while out here &  
two papers. write as often as you find  
time to and I remain your aff. Servant  
A. V. S. M.