White Sulphur Springs near the
Rappahannock Wednesday Nov 12th 1862

Dear Parent:

I thought I would take
this opportunity to let you know where
we are. I wrote you a letter some time ago, but the mail going out so
unreliably I did not write much. I wrote you it was raining and seemd
about the depth of an inch. It was
pretty cold. I assure you for that day
at 4 o'clock. We had to march and
was out till nearly midnight. Our
Generals made a blunder by misunderstanding
lines of our and got fairly into hand
the night and had to retreat back to
where we came from. The next day
we marched into Jefferson on kind
playing as we entered. The village of
Jefferson is mostly in ruins a few
of the women houses being occupied
by women they looked very angry.
White Sulphur Springs near the Rappahannock  
Wednesday Nov. 12th, 1862  

Dear Parent,  

I thought I would take this opportunity to let you know where we are. I wrote you a letter four or five days ago, but the mail was going out so unexpectedly I did not write much. I wrote you it was snowing it seemed about the depth of an inch. It was pretty cold I assure you for that day at 4 o’clock We had to march and were out till nearly midnight Our Generals made a blunder by undertaking to go to Jefferson by a cross road and got fairly stuck in the mud and had to retreat back to where we came from The next day Saturday we marched into Jefferson, our band playing as we entered The village of Jefferson is mostly in ruins, a few of the houses being occupied by woman they looked sour & angry
I suppose they thought that what they had left to live on we should soon take from them but they were not mistreated and I noticed many of their faces were more cheerful. When we found the country about the Battle of Pea Ridge we found the country almost desolate. Pea Ridge is about fourteen miles from the town the day before Pea Ridge we were an advance guard of men for the horses had been left at the First G.P. and the horses were attacked, robbed and driven away and fed his horses on the corn. A great deal of corn has been raised this year but it has been fully needed all eaten up by the horses of both armies. We were on picket (our Co.) and it was my first turn at picketing. The Rebels were quite near us but didn't disturb us. We lay as still as possible. mussinno being so hot. Support was good and if he did not shoot him through his guns being loaded and loaded.
I suppose they thought what little they had left to live on we would soon take from them but they were not molested and I noticed the next day their faces wore a more cheerful aspect Here we found the country almost desolate Stuart’s Rebel Cavelery occupied the town the day before. Stuart bought an enormous field of corn for his horses & paid $900 for it C.F. scrip but Gen. Pleasanton attacked, routed and drove him off and fed his horses on the corn. A great deal of corn has been saised in Culpepper Co but it has been pretty much all eaten up by the horses in both armies. We were on picket (our Co) Monday & Tuesday night this was my first turn at picketing. The rebels were quite near us but did not disturb us. We lay as still as mice our orders being to halt everyone seen; and if he did not; blow him through, our guns being loaded and capped.
Tuesday morning we were ordered early at 2 o'clock and ordered to go to this place as a guard to the baggage train. And by sunrise Wednesday morning for what Jefferson were camped here. We im moved so suddenly I can't tell perhaps the rebels were near or far.

Strong numbers of Sunday we marched out feeling to have a little brush with the Rebel cavalry, but they all stood still when they saw the whole Union coming. They did not like the looks! Those bright bayonets carried by those tall men who are the wonder of all out here place us beside any other. Like we come across and we are on an average half a head taller. The old soldiers frequently exclaim whenever we (I'll) pass. What Brigade is that? While at Jefferson our army was pretty short of provisions having nothing but fish and a little rice for three days. Our Co. being on the strange
Tuesday morning we were routed early at 2 o’clock and ordered to go to this place as a guard to the baggage train And by sunrise wednesday our whole force at Jefferson were camped here. Why we were moved so suddenly I can’t tell perhaps the Rebs were too near in too strong numbers as Sunday we march out expecting to have a little brush with the Rebel Cavelry, but they all skedaddled when they saw the 11th NH coming. They did not like the looks of those bright bayonets carried by those tall men who are the wonder of all out here place us beside any other Reg. we come across we are on an average half a head taller. The old soldiers frequently inquire when we (the 11) pass What brigade is that?

While at Jefferson our army was pretty short of provisions having nothing but fresh beef & a little rice for three days. Our Co. being on picket we
We lived the rest a rich old rebel who had left his plantation in charge of an old negro gone south last fall. He went right up to the house and met the Negros told him we must have something to eat though we got some milk and hams and I was not so hungry the rest of us shot the hogs that were running around the house (by the way it is as common to see hogs running around the houses here as dogs in N E) quickly dressed and brought into camp. And in 15 minutes we were cooking hogs or pork steaks on our rifles or on piked sticks. Oh! I forgot to say we made by cutting a rifle half through wind and please say we had a lot of real fire we never ate so much steack and liver on one day and it did not come in the least I am tough and hearty can eat anything and as soon as I got I went to horse got cut up pretty. The Godlaker boys are all well as usual. Leslie has got a chance that suits him. Driving an ambulance. We have had no mail for about 10 days.

We expect to-morrow to get one. I will write.
lived the best, a rich old rebel who had left his plantation in charge of an old negro & gone south
lost 7 good pigs weighing from 30 to 200 lbs. each. We went right up to the house and meeting
the Negrow told him we must have something to eat two or three of us got some milk and hoe-
cake. I was not so lucky the rest of us shot the pigs that were running around the house (by the
way it is as common to see pigs & hogs running around the house here as dogs in NE ) quickly
dressed and brought into camp. And in 15 minutes 15 men were cooking liver or pork steak in
our spiders or on picked sticks. Oh; I forgot to say we took by puting a rifle ball through him a
nice calf so we had a lot of veal I never eat so much steak and liver in one day and it did not hurt
me in the least. I am tough and hearty can eat any thing feel as well as ever in N.H. I seem to
have got climated pretty. The Hillsboro boys are all well as usual. Leslie has got a chance that
suits him, driving an ambulance We have had no mail for about 15 days We expect to-morrow to
get one I will write then.