Dear Brother: I believe these are the last letters I will write you since you write one but I will more write a little this morning as we are waiting for orders to march.

We are now enjoying the beauties of the Southern Climate. Snow fell yesterday to the depth of 1 inch. We had very sudden orders to march yesterday at 4 o'clock after waiting around all day and by the negligence or blunder of some of our officers we marched down towards the Rebel lines. I could not come to act until half past 8, in the woods on a rough road around 6 inches deep; the going being forced up means of crossing the river the bridge being burnt yesterday by the Rebels. Is what could we do but about face and tramp back which was a slow process as all the ambulances, baggage wagons, soldiers etc met about
On the March Somewhere west from Mass ass Junction. Nov. 8th 1862

Dear Brother,

I believe I have written to you since you wrote me, but I will now write a little this morning as we are waiting for orders to march. We are now enjoying the beauties of the Southern Clime. Snow fell yesterday to the depth of 1 inch. We had very sudden orders to march at 4 o’clock after waiting round all day: and by the negligence or blunder of somebody we (our brigade) marched down towards Repahanock 3 miles & came to a dead halt right in the woods in a rough road mud 6 inches deep; the front having found no means of crossing the river the bridge being burnt yesterday by the Rebels. So what could we do but about face and tramp back which was a slow process as all the ambulances baggage wagons artillery &c &c must about
face also. It was nearly 12 o'clock before
we got our tents hitched together
and all the rail fence burnt in the
vicinity. By the way we are going
burning this fences the fences are all
made from oak. The idea being to
dry burn will we amuse ourselves
by burning all we can especially such
a dreadful cold night as last night
The wind blew furious & it equaled all
the evening which made it cold
enough to freeze on Reelander We have
to cook on own pot now which is hard
head of fresh meat & sugar. Our
coffee we think a good deal of. Our
hottest are started in every
direction & we are huddled around
making coffee boiling potts & bug
toasting hard bread & etc. The Col.
the Col. has just handed he ready
break. We must march a good distance
to-day to get made up for yesterday.
We must get up at a blank
face also. I was nearly 12 o’clock before we got our tents pitched supper eaten and all the rail fences burnt in the vicinity. By the way we are good on burning Vir. Fences the fences are all made zig zag and the rales being dry burn well & we amuse ourselves by burning all we can especially such a dreadful cold night as last night. The wind blew terribly & it squalled all the evening which made it cold enough to freeze an Icelander. We have to cook our own rations which is hard bread & fresh meat coffee & sugar. Our Coffee we think a good deal of. The instant we halt fires are started in every direction & we are huddled around making Coffee, broiling pork & beef toasting hard bread &c &c

9 ½ AM, the Col has just hollowed be ready boys: We must march a good distance to-day to make up for yesterday. We I suppose we are on a flank
movement we expect to grasp. I
speak in a day or two. Probably 200
men are over here. The Blue
Ridge and I cannot follow it to the
end. I will write when we shall
reach New Inverness. We marched
yesterday about 9 o'clock (Jefferson City)
and camped about 4 o'clock. The
air is cold enough to let me keep still today.
This is rather an abandoned village, the houses
both old and shabby; most of them
abandoned by the citizens. The women at
the doors both are cross, for we are
young men. Some is a while an old
man as seen. The houses in this part of
the area seem fine. The country is
fully absolute nothing in the shape
of relatives to be found except Capt. Roby
Thompson's cavalry occupied this town
by force. We bought a great field of
corn which is said to be good. On 16th
Sgt. Breslin fed his horses on it.
movement we expect to join Seigal in a day or two. Probably 200,000 men are now here at east Blue Ridge, but I must fall into the ranks I will write when we halt.

9th of Nov, Sunday. We marched yesterday about 9 miles and got to this place to-day about 4 o’clock (Jefferson Vir. Culpepper Co.) Sunday is observed enough to let us lay still today. It is a rather dilapidated village the houses look old and shabby, most of them deserted by the inmates The women at the doors look sour & cross, for we see no young men and once in a while an old man is seen. The houses in this part of Vir. are few & far between. The country is pretty desolate nothing in the shape of eatables to be found except Corn & Hay. Stuart’s Cavelery occupied this town Friday He bought a great field of corn for which he paid $900 C Scrip Gen. Pleasanton fed his horses on it
and he had to skedaddle. We are following hard on the rebels they keep about 24 hours ahead. We are in the rear so we shall see no fighting unless our forces are severely pressed.

but the mail is going right off please write soon I should like very much to have you send me a havelock one that will keep of the rain well you can roll it in a paper and send it by mail I will be much obliged for a paper once in a while I have seen no paper for a long time.

Please send a Weekly Journal The Weekly’s is what we want I suppose you are in the midst of the busy season now. How is trade in B this fall? Don’t people think affairs affairs are progressing finally with the army? It seems to me this army must march over every obstacle right into Richmond. Have the 9 months men gone from Mass yet? Should like to have Wm write me much for all the news we get is by letters I hope these lines will find you and the children all well. I don’t feel homesick except when I think of the lots of apples in NE. & I can’t have any The only think in shape of fruit is simonds [persimmons?].

I send a seed in this letter. They taste like an apple except rather bitter. Flour has been sold in this Village for $16 pr bll butter $1 pr lb &c

Yours Truly WJ.