Sandys Court, Md. Oct 3rd 1862

Dear Brother,

Received your last two letters when on exhibit at Arlington Heights. We only stayed at East Caledon till two days. Went into camp on 11th. Monday morning we had orders to leave but did not. Started Tuesday morning. Then only got as far as Washington. Here we learned we were going to reinforce McClellan on the Potomac at Fredericksburg. The 5th trot, on Monday night came into the town. We then posted a few miles from the capital. Scoured some others went while the capital was not in danger. But wound round and looked at us all filled with the wounded of the late battles. The wounded are not quite finished. It is a splendid sight. Wednesday at 8 A.M. got started for Antietam. It took 20 days on one long train we went most
Sandy Hook Md, Oct 3, 1862

Dear Brother.

I received your last two letters in camp in Arlington Heights. We only stayed on East Capitol Hill two days. Went into camp on A. Heights the 16th. Last Monday morning we had orders to leave, but did not start till Tuesday morning then only got as far as Washington here we learned we were going to reinforce McClellan on the Potomac at Harpers Ferry We stopped in W. over night camped in the open air a few rods from the Capitol. I with some others went up to the Capitol We couldn’t go in but went round and looked it over it is all filled with the wounded at the late battles. The new wing is not yet finished. It is a splendid edifice. Wednesday at 8 AM. got started for Frederick. On one long train we went most
back to Baltimore then turned on the R & R. west towards Frederick we stopped two or three times an hour or two or three places. We met all men off the trains when they stopped some where we found apples the time they were quickly cleared of apples the corn as most. On the way fromen 1576 the roads too narrow to travel on the R & R. we saw fire every almost equal to the White Mountain rag. The road went through a ravine on the bank of a crooked stream the and we the cornfield. I saw our long train of twenty cars looked like a long snake twisting around. We rode on till the next morning about 4 o'clock when we arrived in Frederick. We found the city pretty well ransacked of everything useful for an army. Jackson was through the city and camped on the very ground we camped on last night, about two hours ago a battle was fought only 4 miles from the city. A man told me where we went to get some water that Dan Burnside was here when
back to Baltimore then turned on the B&O RR. west toward Frederick. We stopped two or three times an hour or two in a place We most were off the train whenever they stopped some places we found apple trees they were quickly cleared of apples the corn is most ripe on the way from W. the crops look rather thin. On the B&O RR, we saw some fine scenery almost equal to the White Mountains scenery The road runs through a ravine on the bank of a crooked stream and is the crookedest on our long train of twenty cars like a long snake twisting around We road on till the next morning about 4 oclock when we arrived in Frederick. We found the city pretty well ransacked of every thing useful for an army Jackson was through the city and camped on the very ground we camped on last night, only three weeks ago a battle was wrought only 4 miles from the city. A man told us when we went to get water that Gen Burnside dressed up in
old clothes and went all through the Rebel breast.
Then placed his batteries as to notice them.
This morning we found a train waiting to take us to Sandy Hook. We got here at 10 o'clock and finding a Post Office here, 
I thought I would write a few lines.
My health has been very good. I have gained 
my flesh a good deal and never felt better in 
my life. We were ordered to leave our bridges 
back at Washington and so we had to sell our things when our men had one student anxious to know what we shall 
probably have some more marching to do.
The government has done pretty well with 
us so far if we had to do with 
the 100 miles we have just come. It would 
have been very hard. We came through a pleasant country here, some 
fine residences on the road but the negroes 
held around and spoiled the beauty of anything.
This country has been in possession of the 
Rebels, we are once in a while the invaders.
old clothes and went all through the Rebel Camp Then placed his batteries so as to rake them
This morning we found a train waiting to take us to Sandy Hook we got here at 1 o’clock and
finding a Post Office here I thought I would write a few lines My health has been very good. I
have gained in flesh a good deal and never felt better in my life. We were ordered to leave our
knapsacks at Washington and so we have to roll our things up in our blankets we don’t carry
much for we shall probably have some severe marching to do The government has done pretty
well with us so far if we had had to march the 100 miles we have just come it would have been
pretty hard. We came this forenoon through a pleasant country there were some fine residences
on the rout but the negros huts around spoiled the looks of everything This country has been in
possession of the Rebels we see once in a while the marks of
shells but folks here say that Jackson’s army did not take much but what they paid for. They thought there were more Rebels in Md We passed by at Point of Rocks an immense ledge or rather passed through it. The ledge towers up above the track some 900 feet about perpendicular. They say the rebels blew a piece of this ledge on to the track as [indecipherable] it is now five and we have no orders yet we must camp out here to-night We are now on the ground where our army planted their batteries. This is splendid country for mountain scenery The Blue Ridge is in sight only one or two miles distant. McClellan’s army is only two or three miles from here we will probably join him or Burnside to-morrow. We are in sight of Maryland Heights Where Miles surrendered ignominiously. Evening I have just pint of molasses and had a good meal of molasses and bread for supper We have been busy since five o’clock pitching our tents. We have tents for two made of two pieces of
of cotton cloth. Each one takes a piece with his bundle and then at night we buttom them together and make a tent. This authorities was to have men every day. We have been cooking and moving since the day of my last letter and probably no more we must move again but we are contented with most anything since we have not had to make long marches. We have the name of being a crack Reg. but all any one ever said more than know there wish on the Reg. I guess we are as civil as any was usually found. We have some fun however there are no gosd sound one night. As night is about 20 of 62D boys found themselves into a yard and would not let any out in without the countersigns. I got a letter from Henry Armstrong from Franklin to day. I am very glad to hear from him.
of cotton cloth. Each one takes a piece with his bundle and then at night we button them together and make a tent. It is rather tiresome to have to move every day. We have been camping and moving since Monday every day and probably to-morrow we must move again, but we are contented with most anything since we have not had to make long marches. We have the name of being a crack Reg. we are all Yankees and not more than two or three Irish in the Reg. I guess we are all as civil as is usually found. We have some fun however there are no gards around our camp to-night. So about 20 of Co D Boys formed themselves into a false gard and wouldn’t let any out or in without the counter sign.

I got a letter from Mary Ann and one from Josephine today. I am very glad to receive letters from N.E. for I don’t have time
To read the news in the papers and see less and less cash to pay them they cost 3 cents at Washington and at Frankfort we shall have to borrow or can't get them at all. When you write you can cut out a piece of News and send it in the letter or sometimes we are asked not to send the newspapers so I shall know you sent it. You must not wait for me to write back. Don't get the times. If we were in the same place all the time I could write more and I want you to send the letters home for I can't get a chance because of some time. Oh! how I am glad to hear that you are getting along in business most of them has some girl enough but no one any change. We can't buy anything but we have some change. I would like to hear you send me 25 cents in cash so I can get the times and some hosiery and will try and pay you sometime. I want you to write me if you can.
to read the news in the papers and much less to find the cash to buy them they cost six cents each
at Washington and I suppose we shall soon be where we cannot get them at all. When you write
you can cut out a piece if interesting and send in the letter or sometimes send a paper
[indecipherable] at the same time so I shall know you sent it You must not wait for me to write
for I can’t get the time. If we were in one place all the time I could write more I would like to
have you send this letter home for I shan’t get a chance to write for some time. We are pinched
here dreadfully for change most all have bills enough but no one can change  We can’t buy any
thing because we have no change. I would like to have you send me about 50cts in scrip or if
you get that two dimes and some postage stamps. I will try and pay you sometime. I would
[indecipherable] may be lost You can direct all letters to Washington,
D.C. Dec 14th Reg. NPBV and as long as
I am in the Union Army they will
find me.

Saturday morning, It is a
beautiful morning and for a while con-
tents last night without any covering
over as much was in enough Times
yesterday at 1 there has Passed from
our Regiments. Two cannon and shells
and a howitzer have passed by. I guess Mobley
will have an overwhelming army before the
armies again. I have learned today that
two papers were all made out today to
Charleston N.C. lots to be done here. I hope we shall have enough
and Generals competent to command so
as to be spared the disgrace of a defeat.
We all are quite confident that victorious
pursuit on our Banners for the Union must be
as greatly demonstrated. Our Co. has one less
morning to get orders from McClanahan
or Banks when he gets back we shall find
out under what Banners shall be placed
D.C. Co D 11th Reg. NHV and as long as I am in the Union Army they will find me.

Saturday Morning

I want to tell you what a cavalryman told me he called up here to fill his canteen had been out scouting so I asked him if the Rebel army could get away if they wanted to he thought it a hard case for them in Seigal with 80,000 men was in their rear and other forces were advancing to meet him so as to completely cut them off I shall have to put this in before I find in what division we go Kiss Emma and Franky for me Oh how I would like to see you all.

Saturday Morning. It is a beautiful morning and we slept in tents last night without any covering over us plenty warm enough. Since yesterday at 1 there has passed five or six Regiments. This morning an Artillery and Cavellery Reg have passed by. I guess McClelan will have an overwhelming army before he moves again. I have learned today that our papers were all made out to go to Charleston, SC but instead we are sent here. I hope we shall have army enough and Generals competent so as to be spared the disgrace of defeat We are all pretty confident that victory will perch on or banners for the Rebels must be greatly demoralized. Our Col. has gone this morning to get orders from McClellan or Burnside when he gets back we shall find out under which Gen. we shall be placed.
Barned oo calaamtee and 20 miles from here and with a big store by the river and several miles away. I bought some milk for my breakfast which went good, with hard crackers. As long as we keep moving our rations are mostly hard, beef and whiskey, and we get a chance to buy anything cheap or good. One day we got some sweet potatoes and we had two meals of sweet potatoes and rice. We ate the rice for our last meal. Everything was cooked rice. An old gray almost man he had just come up here when he was young. I have not seen him since he told me a long story about the rebels. I should like to talk more as he told me that he told me a lot more about them.

I was told that the rebels had some silver and had a lot of guns. They had only a few minutes after appearing and not anything notable. They fired some shots. I never saw such a looking set of brings as they clothed their clothes so that I don't know what kind of cloth they were made of. Some were of cloth and others were of canvas. They had big hats on the head and they looked fine. And you don't know what kind of cloth they were made of.
Burnsides quarters are only ten miles from here and McLellan’s about three just across the river in Harpers Ferry. I bought a pint of milk for my breakfast which went good with hard crackers as long as we keep moving our rations are mostly hard tact and whenever we get a chance to buy anything else it goes good. Our hard buns are real sweet and good to what the army used to have. We fared well at Fredrick after getting our cook tent up we had two meals of sweet potatoes and rice. Wm. Clapp is cook for our Co and everything is cooked nice. An old gray headed man has just road up here where I am writing he has been telling us a long story about the rebels. I should like to write you a sheet full [indecipherable] a hungrier set he never saw they filled his house in a few minutes after appearing and ate everything eatable they paid him some U.S. money some silver and had any quantity of C “scrip” He said he never saw such a looking set of beings no two dressed alike all sorts of coats hats &c and their shirts, those who had any, looked as though they had not been washed for months. He said they looked as though they had been wallowing in the mud for a week and you don’t know what mud is in NE it is just like mortar wherever there is little spilt on the ground.