Camp Near Lowell, Mass. May 9th, 88

Dear Friends:

I sent you a letter this morning supposing Joseph would not get his furlough for the present, but the furlough came today he starts to-morrow morning at 6 o’clock so I sat down by the light of a candle to write you something although I have not much to write.

It is a lovely evening just such a follows a warm, clear planting day in May. It is most for pleasant to play in the tents and the officers and men are in squads about the camp grounds discussing the latest news.
Camp Near Lowell Girard Co. May 9th/63
Lowell

Dear Friends:

I sent you a letter this morning supposing Joseph would not get his furlough for the present, but the furlough came to-day he starts to-morrow morning at 6 AM. so I sit down by the light of a candle a bayonet used for a candle stick & will try write you something although I have not much to write.

It is a lovely evening just such a follows a warm corn planting day in May. It is most too pleasant to stay in the tents and the officers and men are in squads about the camp ground discussing the latest war news
singing. The band has just been playing several
melodious tunes. The all-absorbing
topic of conversation is the army
of the Rohrshannock rumors are
rife that Surgeon has fallen
back across the Kappa—
for supplies & reinforcements.

I hear the rumble and
activity is hard to be borne
when the papers come out each
it is one grand triumphant for
the papers them. We have no
papers to-day & we must
wait another week without
news. I suppose you have all
sorts of rumors in the Boston
papers about the army under
Rocher just as you did when we
were there. We shall feel very
much disappointed if Rocher
talking & singing. The band has just been playing several enlivening tunes. The all absorbing topic of conversation is the army of the Rappahannock rumors are rife that Hooker has fallen back across the Rappa___ for supplys & reinforcements.

I tell you the suspense and anxiety is hard to be born when the papers come into camp it is one grand stampede for the them. We have no papers to-day & so we must rest another night without news. I suppose you have all sorts of rumors in the Boston papers about the army under Hooker just as you did when we were there. We shall feel very much disheartened if Hooker
defeated, but I shall not despair this rebellion must certainly well be put down, as Henry Clay said we will in regard to the war with England. "We will fight them as long as there is a man or gun or a man to use it."

The Copperheads are getting to be pretty noisy in the North. "Old Burny" Pinckney, W. A. Graham, and his crew. The traitors at the north can get no support from the army, the soldiers are almost entirely confident of success and are bitterly opposed to a march north or south. I have heard hundreds of soldiers say they would shoot a man in the north as in the south.

We sent our overcoats home by express. The Hillsbоро boys left was
defeated, but I shall not despair this rebellion must & certainly will be put down as Henry Clay said in regard to the war with England “We will fight them as long as there is a gun or a man to use it”

The copperheads are getting to be pretty sausy in the North “Old Burnsy” is enough for Valandingham and his crew The traitors at the north can get no support from the army. the solderies are almost entirely confident of success & are bitterly opposed to seceh north & south. I have heard hundreds of soldiers say they would shoot a secesh in the north as soon in the south.

We sent our overcoats home by express The Hillsboro boys bbl. was
directed to Dickey. I don't
know as they will ever get
here but if they do please buy
envelopes & take my coat it is
marked my name in the
lining. I want father to send
me a pair of light slippers they
will be so nice to wear in camp.
I want a silk handkerchief
Please have send a package of
envelopes and a pair of slippers.
I can't think what to write for
we have just heard the news that
Hooker is all right & that the boys
have stopped singing 'Old Camp
Young Lying' are cheering for
Hooker. The boys in and Co are
running to this tent anyway
when you go & bringing letters
& bundles. I want a pair of socks
those army army socks I left at
home would be the best but some
patches on the heals if you have not
then send a thin pair that will
be easy to the foot. I sent my old
letters home. Please write a long
letter till better to write a letter.
directed to Dickey I don’t know as they will ever get home but if they do please pay expenses &
take my coat it is marked my name in the lining I want father to send me a pair of light slippers
they will be so nice to wear in camp.

I want a silk handkerchief please have send a package of envelopes and a quire of paper
(I can’t think what to write for we have just heard the news that Hooker is all right, the boys have
stopped singing Old Auld Lang Syng & are cheering for Hooker. The boys in our Co. are
running to this tent inquiring when Joe. goes & bringing letters & bundles.) I want a pair of
socks those army socks I left at home would be the best put some patches on the heals if you
have not them send a thin pair that will be easy to the feet. I send my old letters home. Please
write a long letter Tell father to write a letter

I send a lock of my hair perhaps Mother would like to see it