Near Fredricksburg, Va., Jan 25th 1863

Dear Brother:

I sent you a letter which I wrote very hurriedly last Holiday afternoon, expecting that we should march the next morning. We did not march & have not struck our tents so far the appearances are that we shan't because we can't for some time. I had a chance to eat all my stuff from home & would like another box to begin on now. I gave away more than I should if I had not been under much orders, but agree that all get some of it & send again. They sent me from home an amount of brown bread, wheat bread, apple preserves, rice, sausage, beef, apple molasses white sugar once the cheese & some sweet cakes & fruits of fresh fruit & had all of which came on good cakes except the apples for those were moldy, the preserved through the 15 days. They are lots of horses at Cleaver Creek which they will not let come through Perfect now they will come in a few days as we are to-day. Beginning the draw camp items tonight. So far the last week we have not drawn much except bread & hard tack, pork I don't eat much of when that is our only fodder. I manage to get some meal flour & corn, some things of that sort.
Near Fredericksburg Vir. Jan 25th, 1863

Dear Brother:

I sent you a letter which I closed very hurriedly last Friday afternoon expecting then that we should march the next morning. We did not march & have not struck our tents as yet & the appearances are that we shan’t because we can’t for some time. I had a chance to eat all my stuff from home & should like another box to begin on now. I gave away more than I should if we had not been under marching orders, but I guess shall get some if it back again. They sent me from home some nice brown bread, wheat bread, apple pies mince pies sausages dried apple molasses white sugar nice butter cheese seed cakes sweet cakes & a piece fresh pork stuffed all of which came in good shape except the apple pies those were mouldy the box came through in 15 days. There are lots of boxes at Acquire Creek which they will not let come through I expect now they will come in a few days as we are to-day beginning to draw camp rations potatoes fresh beef &c for the last week we have not drawn much except pork & hard tact, pork I won’t eat much off when that is our only fodder. I mannage to get some indian meal potatoes, onions flour or something of that sort
but it frequently happens money won't buy any thing the men come down on. I send them all that I have to eat up as soon as possible, or it will spoil away Government is not short of transportation will assure you. But I am growing flashy on my face after all. nymphs are not important in disposed as any on the Co. 0 with the least expense. I think a chance to change for a cup of coffee which we have a abundance of coffee, some times a little with a molasses, at a house about a mile from camp. Sunday I received a letter from home saying they were all well that they had received a letter from you saying you intended to send me a letter be cause you and one sister whom you had heard of what is going on I don't know any more alternatives, please send me some potatoes in the box. If you can on any thing don't put any paper around them. An ice piece is the only meat should write. About a deal of the broom seed wheat bread but it is rather dry by sending anything but what will keep month. I think however have started now will come right. Orion you send fruit send that much with him. The longest come white sugar would be as acceptable as anything Sugar I think is not preferable to send as any thing of that kind. Some lobster in a can sealed off would be nice and could think brown sugar bread would be good while your kind one oysters you think best of comes on the time of a month that is always takes enough who will benefit and serve one something for it.
but it frequently happens money won’t buy every thing & then we come down on to hard tact that some of it we have to eat up as soon as possible or it will crawl away Government is not short of transportation I’ll assure you. But I am growing fleshy on our fare after all. I guess our tract [indecipherable] as any in the Co. & with the least expense I found a chance to change pork & coffee of which we have an abundance for indian meal sometimes a little milk or molasses, at a house about a mile from camp

Friday I received a letter from home saying they were all well & that they had received a letter from you intending to send me a letter box soon if you send me write when you start & a complete list of what is in it. I don’t need any more paper or envelopes, please send me some [saluratis?] in the box If you put any pies don’t put any paper around them mince pies is the only ones I should risk. I think a great deal of the brown bread wheat bread but it is rather risky sending any thing but what will keep months I think however boxes started now will come right throug, if you send fruit send that which will keep the longest some white sugar would be as acceptable as anything butter I think is as profitable to send as anything of that kind. Some lobster in a can sealed up would be nice & should think brown or graham bread would keep a good while, now send me whatever you think best if it comes on the eave of a march there is always boys enough who will take it and return me something for it