Correspondence
Alfred Ryder
Sept. - Dec. 1861
Hemlockville

Sir, Friends, Sept 6, 1861

Nothing occur but one--continued marching here in camp--drilling--sleeping & eating. I hardly ever hear one express an idea of danger although the prospect of action is exceedingly good.

I have believed all the time and the last two days has confirmed my belief that Missouri will be our destination. Yesterday telegraph says that Vermont demands an army of one hundred thousand. If so we are surely none. I hope not.
There are near a hundred men here now, all waiting anxiously for their uniforms which are supposed to arrive to day from Cincinnati.

No horses for a few more the captains are here.

The stables are ordered to be commences to day. I after their erection. Camp fire will be the center of curiosity.

We have one building not nearly thirty rods long—quarters for sleeping. The old agricultural fair ground tent is set here for dancing room. But the say that we will half to cook our own arreats after this. The camp kettles are here with all their equipage — literally cups—spoons by the thousands. I am well and hearty and expect to
remain so. Farewell as unwell
but probably he would not wish
his letters to know it. But it
is generally very healthy. A.F.
(Camp, Long)
(In care of J. M. Hurligan
First-Mish, Canada)
Dear friends,

I'm well but rather sleepy this morning, having been on guard yesterday.

Our uniforms have at last arrived, and I'm dressed in my new Sams clothes. That is, we have drawn our pants coat two shirts two pairs of socks 2 1/2 pairs of shoes and an expected hat today.

The men are all in a flutter about going home but all are alike reflected.

The possibility is that we will go Thursday the flag is present the morning. I shall take my clothes to Risingboro tomorrow morning if I can get there.

Alex Eydes
Camp near Capitol Hill

Dear friends,

I thought that I would write a word this evening being that I enjoyed a good opportunity for doing so. I don't feel quite as well as I have. I rather think that I went to work too soon at least. I'm told so now by my friends but however I'm not down and shall not go to work again till all are satisfied that I'm able. They are like the doctor can prescribe the remedy and give the cure after the patient has got will. To-morrow we move, but I can not tell exactly when the exact is that we go on Seventy St. The first division moved.
yesterday and the third to day. The first division have been paid off and the same day that they were paid many lost all they had. I say one fellow drayed in dead drunk that had had his jockey pickled in every cent he had Thirty Dl.

Another fellow by the name of Brink lost all he had in Co. A at the All Times is in. Brink come from hunting but I don't know how he lost it. The amount that we get this time is near Thirty Dollars. We have our choice in Treasury notes or gold. Many notes were taken. They are as good as the gold any where here but I don't know whether they are worth anything in Backeraging or not so I believe that if I get the chance I shall take the gold.
We have our arms now or at least we have our saber and revolver. I call them very good weapons. The revolver is Colt's regular hip shot and I should think it could be loaded in a minute.

I have a letter of the 20th from Chad Hadley, he is better, he said that he should like to be with his regiment on the ground revictual but unable to fill strong enough for the march.

The boys are all well and down taking care of their horses. The horses begin to look well. They give them four quarts of oats three times a day mixed with corn. These blankets and things are not yet among things present and I guess never will be but however we have plenty.
about the trim—wood cut wood 10 dollars a cord—with anything else in proportion.

But I shall not I draw my letter to a close the boys have come back by remaining yours forever.

O. F. Ryder.
Camp Broadhead
Oct 14, 1861

Dear friends,

It's a pleasant, fine morning and every one feels well.

Sam Billy Coole who has been sick since we left Washington.

Camp life has its delights. I can sit here in my tent this morning and hear the music of near a dozen bands and view the consequent activity of many regiments. I somewhat expect to hear well here to-day. They encamped only about seven miles from us. And possibly Chaffin's will be here too. I wrote to him yesterday. The report is that we go back to the city as the bodyguards of Old Abe. I haven't seen Old Abe yet, but we expect him by the end of the month.

One thing
is certain that we must this
night in some direction
Whether to Washington or Virginia
or somewhere else no one knows.
It's dreadful, mellow
searching hot sun in the middle
of day but the nights cool.

There is a New Jersey regiment
encamped on our right—cavalry
and on our front of infantry
and a New York regiment a little
way in our rear & these are
regiments in all directions.
At evening it looks splendid. The
camp being all lighted you can
see every encampment for miles
around. You will notice
by looking in my book of "Prose and
Poetry" that I sent home from
Detroit some verses that I wish
off. I wish you would put them
in an envelope and send them to
me for they come dreadful some time as quotations in writing
Yours in haste
John Mich Barlett
Washington, D.C.
Dear friends,

The day is stormy and dreary since noon and all the soldiers are cooped up in their tents. This afternoon I spent in wandering around the city. But first I will tell you that yesterday we moved from camp Broadhead to the position we now hold.

Retracing our steps we marched to Washington most directly from the point from whence we started; proceeding a few rods east, we cast our tents in the very midst of the city, and now occupy a position almost in halting distance of the Capitol. I can look out now and see its vast unfinished dome over the beautiful grove in our front and I also can see in the other direction the many and vast buildings which compose the Washington navy yard, on lots which occupied only attention this forever. The navy yard covers...
I good many others are well filled with buildings of monstrous size. The vessels are just now in the harbor of France. I have seen all splendid war vessels. They look as though bulls could not penetrate their thick iron sides. They all have 40 day abundantly supplied with the ammunition of war. This minute the first salvos that had come in at home have shot from the windows of a brick house across the street. One shot in the leg of the other, I have not heard where. But neither dangerous. I received a letter from Ed. Horsin to say he will get ready to move. We are all well, I bring all except goods — he is yet in the hospital. Yours in haste. A. C. A. Jr.

11th Michigan Cavalry Co. F
Washington D.C.
Camp near Capital Hill
Oct 20th 1861

Dear friends,

I'm little tired to-night, having traveled considerable through the day. I went to church this morning. There was about one hundred of us started for the Congregational church, but when we got up point the Presbyterian church, the minister came out and invited us. We expected to see old Abe then that being the church that he belongs to, and generally attends. But were disappointed.

It's a splendid church and a splendid preacher that preached. He preached altogether different from any preaching that I've ever heard before.
not mentioning anything
that damned through eternity
He said that all things existing
together for good and that God
was the Creator of sin sorrow
and suffering only to bring man
to a proper appreciation of the
pleasures he enjoys which I believe to be true as could have
been said. But enough of
that. I haven’t told you
that I can look across the
street and see the home once
of Cox Colston. It is a large
brick house ancient now in its
appearance but probably rebuilt or
modified over since he lived
there. A high brick wall
encloses about two acres with it
all well covered with high trees
and generally healthy but without
there is quite a number sick.
Most of the sickness being measles, I have been exposed to them myself but nearly two weeks ago. So I think that I shall have them. I took some things into Billy Qualls not knowing that the measles was there. Billy has got well and has been dispersed by the surgery as a writer.

Yours Truly, A.B. Ryder.
Dear Friends,

I am just recovering from the effects of the mistsles. Although somewhat weak as yet, I feel strong to what I put one week ago. I can assure you that the mistsles are no tisling illness in this country. At least they did not chiefly much with me for actually at one time I was helpless as a babe. Nearly a nurse carried me to the hospital just as they would carry a dead calf. But thanks to the doctor I came back to my tent yesterday without any of their aid, firmly believing that I shall be about my business within a week. The mistsles are the
greatest plague in camps for they bring down the greatest number and make the sickest men. Quite a number has already died with them and some are still left that can never recover. Information of typhoid fever sets in and their cases are well nigh mortal. It is very sick in camp, company D has but thirty-five men fit for duty. Our company is more healthy, having near seventy-five. There are all sorts of rumors in camp, some say we are going to Baltimore for winter quarters—others say we are going to Virginia—but some say that we will quarter them in Washington on Seventh St. But I can't tell all may be right. Our regiment is divided in three divisions, one
under Major Atwood and one under Major Paldi and the other under Major Tom. We are in the colter division under Paldi and the report is that we shall be provided with lances instead of carbines.

But I must not forget that I wrote God and also the money in And never did money come more acceptable for it has occasionally already supplied me with a few necessaries such as a dish of milk and the like. I begin to know how to pass the few common things that flourish around him. Ask Jenny if he thinks he could bake a dish of pudding and milk if he had not had any for near three months even if he did work. Also, farewell.
enlisted dear me if much weak
boys dont spend this day, thin I'm
no profit - I know what it is. I
know that he never can stand it
But I'm rather warm with my
they over him on. You see that
I'll let you know that I've got
one. Only them that are by the
next list are provided with they
blessings as well as services

A B Rider
Camp, Indiana
Nov. 14th, 61

Dear Brother,

The day is very pleasant. In fact, every day for a time back appears like spring weather in Michigan, that is when the sun shines for the nights are extremely cold. It's good working weather for us. I'm not that busy, but, as for myself, I'm playing up gentlemen so I'm excepted from anything else. The boys are all off drilling now with their horse. I haven't got any myself yet, and don't want any till I am able to take care of one. It's a good two hours work in the morning or late.
care of a horse as it hast to be done. Everyone is called up by daylight or after and kept to start immediately for the stable when they hast to clean their horses. And they keep to clean them to, there is no feeling about it, if one is caught idle, or his horse found dirty, he's made to clean his own for an hour or two, then sit about cleaning others or maybe he will be put in the guardhouse.

This is a fast country, little boys six or eight years old are having by with pipes and cigars in their mouths and their pockets filled with tobacco and the chances out of three, if they haven't got a bottle of whisky secreted about them, for the men, they drink whisky like water.
Little girls here get to be warm
mostly at a very early time. Part
and pack around with a force
that would cut disappeare older
citizens.

I had one of my back teeth pulled
out yesterday and my mouth jibs
as though I hadn’t got any left.
I ache all the time and when
pulled out I found it was entirely
rotten. I thought my head was
coming off when the doctor got
on his irons and commenced pulling.
But it won’t ache any more.

There was great fireworks here
night before last in the city in
honor of Gen. S. D.传染病
Such fireworks you don’t see in
Maine; it cost a great many thousand
dollars. But enough. This is 17.
Camp, Rucker
Nov. 15th, 1861

Dear Brother,

I received yesterday about two hours after. I put one in the office for you. Party good letter for the first time or any other time and I was glad to see it and hear the news which it contained. You allude to my having the measles of course you have full information in regard to that but for this time from the letters which I have written I feel your's must be dry but not exactly yet as I'm drilling certainly as long as I can get an excuse from the
olve. You give
you more caution now
not to lay on the ground
we have not been obliged
to do so yet for when we
first arrived here the first
thing that we don’t want to look
out for a place to our tent
and we easily should enough
pickets for the purpose. Also
we have straw to cover
the floor nights when we sleep
and daytimes we roll it up in
the corner and cover it with
an old blanket which our
German Chum has and that
makes our seat whenever we
are in Tent. You speak about
sending my overcoat of course you
have heard from my letters that
I have a coat now. And a real
coat it is, it comes almost down
to my heels and has a fin
cup. It is not clear if it is
made of felt like the caps and
hats which are everywhere for sale.
It would be fairly hard to wet it.
Though, Furlong had it on guard
last night and it rained hard
all night but it didn’t wet it
much of any. I have received no
information in regard to Hadfield
whether he is ill or well.

Keep distant from the small
purse of Plymouth. Its nearly life
or death in that disease. We
hear of that in any letter which
we receive. Keep away.

The blanket to which you sent
from Wayne Co. to company. It
has not yet been received. We
received some blankets but they were
sent by the ladies of Detroit and
Huron. They have been drawn
by letting all the boys have drawn
one large white wools blanket to
They have not given me a chance yet but it don't matter for we have plenty. What the boys have I have. And we all together have 16 blankets so you see we are not suffering. Hoping that this may mean you will I remain yours
goodnight

J. A. Ryder

Dear Friends,

The day is very pleasant. The snow has not quite hard last night. I'm once again able to perform duty, although I have not yet commenced. I'm very lucky in not having the musket harder than I did. Some were taken down and before I was, that were yet very ill. One fellow in the next tent to me was taken down a week before I was and he can't just a word yet and I don't believe he ever can. We are brigaded now and 500 will be in action service I believe.

Our captain says he will give every man a little grains of mule, one man in action service within thirty days. The name of our Gen. is Palmer. He is an Illinois man. His station is at the mouth of the Potomac. Gen. Sumner has charge of all the cavalry 16,000 in number. A good many of the regiments are from N., S., & Illinois. They are all equipped and ready for the word "forward." We get our rest over to day.
Fathers Jedly day after tomorrow. The boys are getting so that they will go on perfect. I haven't drilled on horse any yet. Our Captain has got that old brown horse that he had so that he will 'bout four weeks or so. Peter Darwell has got the horse that his father sold for the fruit. Mrs. Darly has traded the one he first had for a spirited little grey horse which he has now.

Every one here is on the lookout of sentiments in relation to the East Royal Battle and the return of Mason and Slidell. Fireworks and the Thunder of Cannon can be seen and heard to make quite satisfying. But they might better use their powder for more useful purposes, for fighting, fighting, fighting is still to be done. And many of the boys think that they will be sent home before the 4th of July, but I don't believe thousands will get called from the States into the war is ended. Some think that Congress will make propositions of peace which will be offered by the Britons, but I don't believe that any propositions will be offered or accepted if offered. The country seems happy, that is the North, everything is valuable, wages are high. The commander of the north exceeds the
commander of the whole states before the war; and men in power would not expect anything but my real judgment as sufficient to prove the war unjust will never be given till I am.

Good deal of dissatisfaction prevails among our boys caused by not getting their pay. If they are not paid before land I fear the effects will be a mutiny, which will be disgraceful indeed. Very much the officers assure that the next week will bring our pay, but nothing comes. The first of this month was the regular pay day, and other regiments received it, but through the incompetency of our officers we were kept out. Neither for the expense the boys have yet received the blankets which you sent.

B subscribes blankets from Meigs. In our regiment were all just together with not regard to any marks and sent on. At any rate nearly a thousand arrived in time, and were distributed over tent getting four of them and me and one too. The boys are all well. There is a good number of sick in camp. I think that we have lost 25 men in all by death. Just a number for so short a period.

Yours forever, A. E. Ryder.
Camp, Pucker
Nov. 22, 61

Dear Friends,

Your kind letter came at hand yesterday bearing with it an article of very great value in this country and nothing to be snared at in any. It is a very few I can tell you have a cent of money in our camp. Nothing but soldier's tickets. One fellow in our Co. has taken up 19 dollars in them others have gone in near as heavy.

Captain De Roe was here yesterday to see us. He was very agreeable. As for that matter though he always is. I saw Col. Stockton here in camp a few moments ago. He's a lisy of a looking fellow and will it.
probably fight just about as he looks. De Joe said that they anticipated going to S. Carolina and would be much qualified to go. It is reported that our Col. has said that he believed that we would go there also from the disposition of facts. And our men are enjoying themselves freel childhood. The report but I have an idea that their pay is more. At least I believe that we will not go for the present or until we can form our battalions better than we are now. The idea would have its advantages and disadvantages if we could go home and close the war this winter and come away in the spring it would be a good job but to stay now Summer would be very much exposing the health of northerners indeed
Farley was very sick a couple of days but has got well now and here by the side of me examining his sword and revolver. They are splendid implements. The revolver holding six times and you can load it in a minute.

I have not heard anything from Chas. Audsley.

His regiment was on the grand review day before yesterday. That is so reported.

There is a celebration to day of some event for they are firing down at the Navy Yard most continually. I told you that our Major Henry was shot instead of Stoneman in my last letter.

And with this I shall remain

Yours sincerely
F. H. Ryder
Dear Sister,

Today is Sunday, and I being alone in my tent, thought I would just write you a word to see if you would write an answer. It will tell you to write and learn you to compose, beside doing justice to one far away. I take great comfort in my letters, oftentimes receiving them or four a day. There are probably fifty or more now, or more.

I lament the loss of my gold very much. There are so many around always that a camp is a fine place to lose things. The way I write is to sit upon the floor with my paper upon a book a portion I should have declined to take not...
Long ago in writing.

Although it's Sunday, I'm tired from the work of hard washing which I have just finished with the help of the other boys in a few minutes. We have considerable work in dishwashing three times a day, which we each perform alternately. You told me that I should think of our relation to this country in the letters which I have written, and now I am going to tell you something about its people yet. The woman here are proud but kind-hearted. All that are worth anything wear silk dresses. When I was sick they came to my tent and brought with them good pie, cake, chicken, broth, and many other things which they kept pretty and had plenty left to leave with the rest of the entire camp. They are very kind indeed all the time.
I am going to tell you how they dress their little boys, it's a regular "snow" dress, blue pants very full - red coat cut about as long as Charley's old red one - trimmed with nice blue tape, the collar buttoning up to and around their neck like ours. They have long stockings and the pants come down and gather around the top, while the stockings. The cap is made to gather at the top, from which hangs a red tassel. The cap being red with a strip of blue around the bottom part. All the cloth used is blue and red velvet. Tell me if it would look splendid on Charley; it would make him look like a regular soldier.

But as it is getting late I will bring my letter to a period by remaining Yours Forever

E. V. Ryder
Camp Palmer
Nov. 31st, 41

Dear friends,

Our camp is very quiet. We occupy a position near the north of the city, a mile or so to the north. I expected that we would go in busses but we again ran the tents. Our camp is in the woods and on the side hill. But still it's rather wet and at present disagreeable.

Thomas Smith was here in camp a few minutes ago. He looks like a soldier—indeed having very nice clothes and a very healthy appearance.

I received a letter from Horace Stocking yesterday he gave an account of himself. He said that she was at her grandmother's and would probably stay there through the command of her father. His folks are all well. What is most evident.

We get our pay this January.
all being treasury notes, I shall send twenty-five dollars home—putting ten in this letter and probably fifteen in the next. Most of the boys that send money home send it by express, but I'll ask it by mail. I know that if it does get lost that it won't be anyone's fault, although I never intended for the money although I found and was ready to take my share. Every one feels happy now—I can hear them ring and hollow for all over the camp. Money is just as the air. Some foolish fellows instead of buying something cheap machine—probably worth about a cent a dozen—giving five and ten dollars a cent. I have no horse yet but shall have one the first of the week. One fellow in our Co has been promised to a sedimentary in the Michigan Brigade, and I shall
take his horse—a smart six
year old mare—fully well drilled
regiments are around us
again upon my hands—both boys—
infantry & artillary—on cavalry from
AT L—on infantry from California
I happened yesterday to come across a
fellow in the 36th—York that I knew.
He formally heard it taught a
son of stage driver—Currie—he
enlisted at Albany
Some body has had the kindness
to send me a paper which I
have just received and I guess
I will bid you good buy
for the present and look
over the paper
Yours Forever
AG Tyler
The Star-spangled Banner in
triumph shall wave,
O'er the land of the free, and
the home of the brave!

Camp Palmer
3rd Dec. 1861

Dear Friends,

In opportunity
opportusely to write and I shall
impress it for a few moments.

To a very brightful day, the
sun shining out upon me as warm
as it did last May. Our camp
begins to wear more of a pleasant
aspect. The boys are all to work
cleaning it up, though our horses
are on rather to clone to our tents
to make very clean work. I have
been on guard so I'm yeanded from
fatigue. Probably you have received
the letter which I wrote on the 1st
and the money that was in it. I told...
you in that, that I would
get 15 Dollars out of the rest, but
I have concluded that I would
wait till I received an
answer whether you receive that
money.

Gen. Pat战 was here and is
recollecter as yesterday. He is a
very good looking man.

We expected Gen. Stoneman and
President Lincoln but they
were not here. I came across
a brother of Frederick Hoyt yesterday
the thing by one of the regiments
of a New York a party of a small
young fellow too. The boys
all have invents now and
quickly and to some say better
than the regulars.

I have not buy out on a pass
within two months I believe, but
I think that I can get one this
week with which I shall try to go.
was in the Second regiment.
I believe that I have got entangled
of one with the muskets but it
has left me deaf in one ear but
probably time will cure it away. When I was taken down
north with it I weighed over 148 but
now I weigh less than 135 so
you see that I had pretty good
luck in getting over it so soon.

I have not received
a letter from home this
long while and this for I shall
expect an immediate reply be.

Yours forever

A. C. Roper.
Camp, Palmer
31st Dec 1861

Dear Friends,

I received a letter from home yesterday before yesterday from Byor or Jobey or Johnny from Eby or Ebyer at all events the only one I have had this many a day.

Tuesday we moved about 60 miles up to Fredericksburg and there you await the orders of Gen. Banks. Some think that we go immediately south but I should render any judgment some different from that.

We have been drilling partly through since we moved our camp - battalion drill.
We all have just been on inspection to see if our clothes are in proper order and our arms all right. We have seen inspections every Sunday. Harrison Mr. Furlong was our here to see me the other day. He looks very healthy and keeps up very admirable spirits and feeling good necessary in soldier life. We says they are preparing for winter quarters in their camp. But I think it is very foolish for the army to go in winter quarters then being the very lines for action, if ever there is a time. This will be a long war if there is no more...
done in the future than
There has been done in the
past to bring it to a
conclusion very long indeed
To more healthy con-
cerns, now there it was
to be although some that
were sick with the muscles
when I was born not yet
recovered But I shall haft
to draw my letter to a
climbing I shall haft to
go on another parade
this afternoon So with
soon Yours Forever
ASA Ryder
Saturday morning
14th Dec 1861

Dear friends,

We have at last arrived at the city of Fredericksburg, some 40 miles from Washington. By looking at the map you will see that it is nearly south of Washington. The street lines are now so you see that it is good work.

I feel just one after the other, although when thinking especially on the last day gives me a pain in the side. But - I suppose that practice will cure that. Then I shall be all right.

The country is beautiful through which we pass many homes looking scenic.
splendid thin. I ever enjoyed to see. The weather has been nice - the roads good - in fact - all went off right. Just might makes the fourth that we have slept with the sky for our roof - giving us a small beginning of real soldiering. I slept first and the first day we came as far as Rockville - 12 miles - camped on the farm ground - put our horses out - our hard bread - made warm coffee - roasted in the end of a barrel of meat when each one took a slice and roasted it on the coals at his pleasure. One morning we were up by three o'clock and all ready by daylight for the march but after getting under way we would stop for an hour or two hours.
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waiting for the almost immemorable number of wagons to get

in their proper order.

The wagons are all drawn by

mules and sometimes the Allah

were so long that they would

rupt the back on my back of them to

draw one up. They always have

rig for 2 teams and I will let

you know that they drive 7 horses
days

Frederick is a splendid little city

the only fault being the fact of

all the cities of which I have seen

since I left Detroit.-morning

stills. The people here look

full faced and healthy

we are most much of the day

that I believe but I'm burned around

nearly all the time to 10 or 12 miles

I went by Banks yesterday

returning from troops this side.
of the job. He is rather of a small man, I should think. But he being on his back although I was close to him, I could not exactly tell. Neither things, pendulum, nor black whiskers. He was dressed in his full uniform with his great coat on and these curious curved hat. Gen. Williams was with him. I saw that there are a good many arguments, up this way, and all must well drilled. I expect that we will have plenty through work and for them well the work will be done and toward tomorrow. There is some operations coming. I am saying that we will move again and some say not this.
winter. But I can’t see and don’t care much for why we
are moving our cart does anything. I have not received
any letters yet. I don’t know whether you have
received the one I wrote you with the ten dollars in or not.
All the boys are well. Please write and I’ll remain
Yours affectionately,
A. G. Ryder

P. S. I have just received your
letter of the 6th but I have
not the time to answer it.

Direct your letters to:
Co H 3rd Michigan Cavalry,
Gen. B. F. B. Ewell
Frederick, Va.
Sunday 15th Dec. 1861

Dear Brother,

The day is very pleasant it seems like October weather in March. We have a fine camping ground this time. It is in the woods as before. Cavalry regiments nearly always camp in the woods so as to have stopping places for the horses handy. The camp is as rest today everybody having been in the field for the past few days. Although everything went off pleasant on the trip. You remember that they had a sort of battle at Harpers Ferry one day last.
Well I was going to tell you that we were on the march that day. And the news came that the enemy had gained the artillery and had crossed the river and were marching toward us at a rapid rate. Once the report was that they were within 11 miles. But it was found out by reconnoitering the country to be false — I believe certainly that our officers were wonderfully ingenuous but the men didn't seem to care. Harpers Ferry is 20 miles from here and if our fighting is to be done it will be in that direction.
I got a letter from Ee-Ryden, but I don't know what it was from you or I by the other day. It said that David had left language I had not heard about that. That's good news and worth telling. But I'm no more than so write essay as you can.

Yours truly,

A J Ryden.
Camp, Bouldhead

My Friends,

I hear that Johnny has enlisted; great Gods I would like to know what he does that for. So many boys have already lifted their hands up in sorrow for the same. Alas I'm too much boy but I stand it now in comparison with hundreds around me. Truly I write home no half-wild accounts of our sufferings but believe me when I tell you that the life of a soldier has overcome many. Is he ten sworn in? Do he just? If he is not, persuade him...
It is possible to learn all soldiering alone especially for the present. Ask him how he would like to give up his bed such a night as last night, and ride a horse on guard in the cold all night with a court martial and sentence on his heels if he went to stay for a moment. But if he is just, chew him on, and never give vent to a feeling that will disturb his determination in the least, but let him prove himself to sleep in his own cradle, and he will be apt to sleep soundly and wake up with a better appreciation of the life he has lived.
Tell him to write. We are all well. I received a letter from my sister last night. He says Croff. I will hear to fruits otherwise. He must have been hiking. I spoke indeed to have bought disgrace on him in that manner. But I can tell you privately that it must be a self-controlling boy that sticks to his list without some grumbling. Answer Angel and I remain, yours without rancor.

A. S. Ryder
Dear Friends,

I had almost forgot that to day was a holiday day. But if I had been at home I probably should have been thinking about it for a long time past. All to day is stillness among the privates but the officers enjoy a grand feast and even extend an invitation to Gen. Burnet. I took a very pleasant out post.
enough more on the mountains to remind us of the pleasant sides we are used to seeing. We are situated in a sort of a valley, high hills and sometimes mountains, which encircle us. The city of Frederick could be strongly defended by little expense in building fortifications.

I could go down to the city to-day if I wished to meeting but I believe I had rather not.

The fire and wind

And I must write something of slavery for your knew that this is a slave holding country. It is rare I can tell you for soon a man that is owned body and soul by another. When in rain coming I stopped one day to walk my horse.
When one of the slaves came along and we got up conversation about slavery he seemed quite intelligent. I asked him how much he was worth. He said that four years ago he could bring $1100 dollars but now he would bring about $70.

One can see slaves almost at every house. There is a house near by where there are two little ones about three years old, I should think. They seem to enjoy themselves, they play and act with their masters' children. The boys are all well. And so am I. So I guess that we will come through the hollowness days all right.

Yours Logan

A. G. Ryder
May Christmas come and all
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