

Camp near Rappidan River  
28<sup>th</sup> September

My Dear Moll,

I have waited some five or six days expecting to hear from you. I have only rec'd 3 letters from you since I left home and none from Nan (?) We are still encamped upon the hills of the Rappidan & enjoying ourselves as well as could be reasonably expected. Last Tuesday we expected a fight. We were all drawn up in line of Battle on the brow of the hills of the River & opened fire with all our guns upon the Yanks but they failed to reply & we remained there in line of Battle till night & returned to our Camp as they showed no signs of fight. They may cross after awhile & give us Battle but I hardly think it probable until they withdraw some of their troops from Tenn. It is said that Yankee army is greatly demoralized. I suppose you have heard of our grand victory in Tenn. I hope Tenn will soon be free once more. I am of the opinion that our army will hold its own from now until the War ends as they have adopted the most rigid measures to suppress desertion. 23 men have been shot for that offense since my return that I am aware of & presume several others that were in other Divisions have met the same fate. Several were shot in less than a ½ mile of our Camp. 2 last Saturday which I thought I would witness simply because several of our company was going & I had never seen the like before. It was certainly an awful sight. Think of 2 young healthy fine looking men in the prime of life on a beautiful Sept day marched out into a field in front of a Band of Music tied with hands behind them & shot to death by 24 men. One was a Georgian & the other a North Carolinian. One of them stood it like a man to make a short speech in which I heard him say tell my wife & my mother that I was fully prepared to meet my fate & hope to meet them in Heaven. The other one had nothing to say he seemed to be very depressed. I know not what to write dear Moll to interest you as everything is so very quiet with us here that is so far as fighting is concerned. We are a little annoyed with daily dress parades & inspection. We have 2 drills per day dress parade at 6 ok & inspection every Sunday morning at 9 ok. Our Battalion makes quite an imposing appearance on dress parade. We are all required to appear in full uniform dark blue pants & light gray jackets.

Let me know if you have got the trunk (?) from Richmond or if you have had anything of the Box or Satchel. I have written to Mr. Young to try to find out where he left the Satchel but as yet have heard nothing from him. I am needing my flannel drawers but know of no way of getting them if the winter sets in early which I think will be the case. We will go into Winter Quarters sooner than we did last year. I can then get a Furlough to go after my clothing. What has become of Buck has he been heard from yet. This leaves me in usual health at least as good as I can reasonably expect. Tilman (?) sends his respects to youall. I dream of you all often & long to see the time come for us to go into winter quarters. I have been looking for a letter from Unis (?) as you wrote that she has written to me several days ago. Give my love to her & say to her I hope her letter will come up soon. My love also to Pug and her children and Pa and all the rest. How does the little Dr stand the cool weather and no boots tell him he must get his feet hardened to the cold tell Gin her Pappy will be there after awhile & not forget him. I wish I could see a safe chance of sending you some money if you need any about having

your (?irch) fix or borrow it till I can send you some. There is some talk of our going back to our other camp between Orange CH and Gordonsville. If so I think I will have a chance of sending you some money. Give my love to all my family particularly Dr. Bolling (?) Mrs. G. & Tom (?) & any others that may inquire after me. Let me know if Mr. Layne ever got well & be sure and write immediately to your ever fond and affectionate George. Farewell dear Moll for the present.



Camp near Rapidan River 38<sup>th</sup> Sept  
My Dear Mabel,

I have waited some five or six days expecting to hear from you I have only one letter from you & indeed I left home & home from them. We are still encamped upon the hills of the Rapidan enjoying ourselves as well as could be reasonably expected. Last Tuesday we expected a fight. We were all drawn up in line of battle on the brow of the hills of the River & opened fire with all our guns upon the Yanks but they failed to reply we remained there in line of battle till night & returned to our camp as they showed no signs of fight. They may cross after awhile & give us battle but I hardly think it probable until they withdraw some of their troops from Tenn. It is said that Yankee Army is greatly demoralized. I suppose you have heard of our grand victory in Tenn. I hope Gen. Will soon be free once more. I am of the opinion that



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I heard him say tell my wife & my mother that  
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meet them in Heaven. The other one had  
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I know not what to write dear Moll to interest you. as everything is so very quiet with us here that is so far as fighting is concerned. We are a little annoyed with drills, dress parades & inspection. We have 2 drills per day dress parade at 6 AM & inspection every Sunday morning at 9 AM. Our Battalion makes quite an imposing appearance on dress parade. We <sup>are</sup> all required to appear in full uniform dark blue pants & light gray jackets.

Let me know if you have got the bundle from Richmond or if you have heard anything of the Port or Satchell. I have written to Mr. Young to try to find out where he left the Satchell but as yet have heard nothing from him. I am mending my flannel drawers but know of no way of getting them if the winter sets in early which I think will be the case and we will go into winter quarters soon than we did last year. I can then get a Hurlough to go after my clothes. What has become of Benet has he been heard

Dear Moll

I wrote to you yesterday which I presume you will get by Thursday mail. I wrote to Pa from Richmond & left it at the Sinwood (?) House for Phil Durninll (?) to take to Scottsville. I have just got through making up my dough for rolls for supper. We only eat twice a day & enjoyed the cakes & chicken very much. I did not eat a meal on the Packet. I had some of my cakes when I left Richmond after staying there two days. Yesterday was Fast day & was strictly observed throughout the army. Our old Company is in fine condition in the Gettysburg fight we only had one man killed 6 wounded & 5 taken prisoner. The company now numbers 83 men for duty. I am in good health. I was very tired when I marched here as I walked from Liberty Mills St. Gregory & (?) about 11 miles the first night. I slept out & got a hard chill but feel no symtoms [sic] of a return. I hope my dear Moll that you will keep in good spirits & remember that it is not through choice that I am here separated from you & the children but through a sense of duty I owe to my country. It is for the high regard I have for you & my dear little children that I am staying here & am determined that it should never be thrown up to you or either of them in after years I skulked from my duty. And I am of the opinion that you will fully concur with me. Yes dear Moll I know you would like for me to be with you all but at the same time I know you have too much respect (?) for your husband to have him dishonor his duty.

I am in good spirits our officers are willing to do all they can for me on yesterday while talking with my Capt. at his Tent I was in the act of showing him my papers he remarked that he did not care to look at them says he, I know you are all right Thomas & know that you will always return whenever you get well enough said he was never uneasy about me when I was gone but he knew my health was bad & that he had all confidence in me.

Now Moll you must write to me as soon as you get this I will 25 \_\_\_\_\_. Tell Nan she must (?) look for a few lines from me soon. I want you and her to rise early (?) & step around as it is certainly very conducive to health & you must quit eating so much.

As soon as I draw my money I will send you some I sent \$5 in my letter yesterday which I want you to hand Pa & I will send him the other \$5 soon. Kiss the children for me & learn (?) Gin as you can without pressing her too much & make her wear her Bonnett & fix Albert a hat & tell him he must be a good boy if he wants his Boots tell Nan she must go to Pine Grove and take the little Dr behind \_? When I get some money to send you I want you buy him some clothes. I must close for the present, hoping to hear from you soon. I am very truly yr fond husband

George

Note: Sideways in margin of first page:

Don't forget to put my Watch down in the bottom of Nan's Trunk & keep it locked up till I come



Dear Maud I wrote to you yesterday which  
I presume you will get by Thursday I mailed I  
wrote to Pa from Richmond & left it at the  
Simmons House for Phil. Durnell to take to  
Scottsville. I have just got through making  
up my dough for rolls for supper we  
only eat twice a day. I enjoyed the cakes  
& biscuits very much I did not eat  
a meal on the Packet I had some  
of my cakes when I left Richmond after  
staying there 40 days. Yesterday was  
that day I was strictly observed throughout  
the Army. Our Co Company is in fine  
condition in the Gettysburg fight we  
only had one man killed 6 wounded & 5  
taken prisoners. The company now numbers  
83 men for duty. I am in good  
health I was very tired when I reached  
here as I walked from Liberty Mills  
St. Georges & back got about 11 miles  
the first night I slept and I  
had a hard chill but feel no  
symptoms of a return. I hope my  
dear Maud that you will stay in good  
spirits & remember that it is not through  
choice that I am here separated from you  
& the children but through a sense of duty  
owed to my Country. It is for the high  
regard I have for you & my dear little  
children that I am staying here & am deter-  
mined that it shall never be thrown up  
to you or either of them in after years  
that I shrank from my duty. And I  
am of the opinion that you will fully  
concur with me. yrs. dear Maud I

Don't forget to put my watch down in the bottom of Maud's  
trunk & keep it wrapped up till I want it



Know you would like to see him with  
you and but at the same time I know you  
have too much to do to go for your husband  
to leave him this time in his duty.  
I am in good health & our affection  
willing to do everything for you &  
yesterday while I was with my Capt  
at his tent I was with the act of showing  
him my papers & his remarks that he did  
not care to look at them so he I know  
you are and might think to know that  
you will always believe in him and you  
get well enough and he was never  
unhappy & I am now which I ever found  
that he knew my health was bad & that  
he had all confidence in me  
Now since you are going to see me as  
soon as you get time I will write to  
you later.

Look for a few lines from me soon  
I want you & her to move early & stay  
around as it is certainly very  
conducive to health & you must  
quit eating so much.  
As soon as I draw my money I will  
send you some I sent \$5 in my letter  
yesterday which I want you to hand  
on & I will send him the other \$5 soon  
Kiss the children for me & tell him you are  
you can without pressing her too  
much & make her wear her bonnet  
& fix about a hat & tell him he must be a  
good boy if he wants his boots till Nov he  
must go to Pine Grove & take the letter & bring  
him when I get some money to send you I  
want you to buy him some clothes & I must  
close for the present, hoping to hear from you  
soon. I am truly & fondly your husband  
George