

so you see that we are comparatively safe for the present. Our troops now occupy Big Bethel the enemy evacuating without firing a gun. Our troops are upon the advance towards Richmond and ere another sabbath shall roll around they will occupy that place. in my opinion, we know nothing here only what we surmise. you will notice that there is nothing said in any of the papers of the movements at and around fort Mifflin there is nothing made public as yet.

I think we will be paid off again this week but we may not. Our Regt is drilling evy day and begin to make a respectable appearance. There is nothing that looks finer than a well drilled regiment of soldiers in full dress with their bright guns and glistening bayonets. Oh how I wish you could be here for one week you would enjoy it so much then again this is such a pleasant location I think a trip here would be beneficial to your health. but I suppose you would not be allowed to come here now.

Bradford must be a lonesome place now: there are a plenty of vacant houses there this spring Welch folks have moved away George Waller Mrs Ensigns Franks folks & Seornis is going. Harpus talks of leaving for the season and will if the Rail Road

does not go on again Seornis & Welch are going over on to the Sunbury & Erie Road I think they have a job on this road.

McCarte has moved into Mrs Ensigns house I think they must feel very lonely. I have half a mind to settle in this vicinity or some where else if this war ever closes. If the rebels property is confiscated we can buy cheap of the Government and if I have to remain in the service for three years I mean to have my share of it. But I think that I will get my discharge within a month. The judge dont want me to go home and he did not make my application until last week. He was waiting to see what would turn up for my benefit Webster is in a little deeper than myself. he has no position at all. The Col. made him Sancer Sargeant which gives him the ~~privilege~~ of a Sargeant but the pay of a private he is detailed on special duty all the time and does not go into the ranks at all. he will not go home he says until he gets his discharge if he has to serve the three years. Holmes makes a capital officer we think him the best in the regt. Our Col. is the same old graving yet he does not know enough to chew gum altho he has been very pliant towards me since we left Philad. I think he will get a polite hint that he had better resign before long