

Camp Curtis Phila Pa  
March 5th 1862

My Dear Wife,

Yours of the 27 ult was received this evening and read with interest as your truly welcome letters always are. You wished me to state where I wished you to stay if I should remain in the army. I want you to be your own judge in regard to that and stay where you would be the best contented and enjoy yourself best. We intended to have sailed by sea for Baltimore tomorrow but it is now deferred until some other day perhaps until next week. I suppose when we go we will go by water down the Delaware Bay then south along the Atlantic coast to the entrance to the Chesapeake and up this to Baltimore which will be a very pleasant trip. I do not know for certain yet whether I get my discharge or not but Col Curtis told me that I should have it. I will find out something definitely about it soon after we arrive at Baltimore. If I do not I will get a furlough. I am much better than when I last wrote to you as you can plainly see by the look of the writing. I assumed my regular duties again this morning. I did not sit up on Sunday and Monday only just long enough to write a short line to you on Monday morning. I think I was attacked with fever and would have had a runn but for the timely interference of Dr. Marsh who immediately commenced a most heroic attack upon it by giving me about 3 gms(?) of Podophyllin and three of Sephtandrin (?) followed by a teaspoonful of Antibilious and also a little jelseminium (?) and veratrum which soon drove it from my system and has left me rather weak seeing that I have gained only eighteen pounds in weight since you last saw me.

I want very much to see you my dear one tonight but have to content myself with looking at and kissing the picture thanks to you for sending them. It [is] a satisfaction to us to gaze upon the features of those we love if it only as such as are reflected upon the plates of the Camera. Tell Ada that ??? Webster looks very natural with hat in hand leaning against his mother's knee or I believe that he has a little drum on and his holding his drum sticks in his hand. Would you have thought of ??? ever going to war but he is here nevertheless also Dial(?) Hawke and fifteen or twenty more from Bradford that you would not know unless it was Ed Case the man who drew those sticks of timber for me.

Our Regt drew their gunns and equipment yesterday and today. I am very anxious to get off for Baltimore so that I can come home.

I saw Mrs. Holmes here in camp she staid in Phila some five or six days and then went to New York and the ??? went down and staid a day or two there. You know they have friends in the City. She only came out to camp once while she staid in Phila.

I dined on chicking today noon some hens came into camp and was picking up crumbs around the door of the hospital tent and our cook made a hook out of a pin tied to a strung to it and boiled it and then hooked up a hen and served it for dinner.

We will not get our money much before the first of April. I would like to go to Washington before I came home if I could afford it. C.D. Webster did not get the appointment here that he was promised him but someone else has been appointed. Ezra holmes has the promise of his appointment tomorrow but it only pays \$17 per month (Wagon Master). It is getting quite late and I will retire and finish this in the morning so good night and may the good Lord grant you a refreshing slumber and pleasant dreams.

I arose this morning to behold the ground all clothed in a cleane mantle of snow it having snowed the night. I received a letter from Adelbert the other day. He says that his business is very troublesome to him yet. I wish I could pay him what I owe him it would help him a little.

I shall write to you again as soon as we get to Baltimore. Until them believe me yours in love.

N.F. Marsh

P.S. Wish Oscars folks much joy with their daughter for me give my love to all and keep a good portion for yourself. Tell Ada that I want to see her very much that I have to look at her picture every day.