

Baltimore MD March 10th, 1862

Dear Wife,

We struck our tents at 9 O'clock Saturday morning. I took the squad of sick in hospital in charge. We got aboard of the Hidget(?) Avenue carrs and went to the foot of Chestnut St where we went on board of the Propeller Henry Le Law(?) for Baltimore. We steamed up at 4 P.M. and dropped down to the foot of Washington St where we lay until 7 o'clock Sunday morning when we wheeled into the Delaware and moved majestically down this noble river. We passed many points of Revolutionary interest which you can read from History. We sailed down the Delaware as far as Delaware city at which point we entered the Delaware and Chesepeake. Ships came passing through it a distance of 15 miles. We entered into the waters of the Chesepeake Bay. We had a fine day and a pleasant trip. The sea was a little rough while crossing the bay for one or two hours after night. We arrived however safe and sound at Baltimore at 10 ½ P.M. and remained upon the Boat until 7 this morning when we disembarked and marched to the Union refreshment rooms for Breakfast at which place I now write. I understand that we are ordered to fortress Monroe. We will move forward somewhere today either there or to Washington.

I made an ineffectual attempt to get my discharge last week. Could have got it if Col Jones would have given me a furlough to go to Harrisburgh. I had my papers all made out for the Governor to sign. Col Curtis recommended me to go without leave and trust to luck he feeling sure that the governor would grant me the discharge. I will now have to get it through the War Department.

I saw S.G. Casey on Saturday he came aboard of our boat. He has been elected to Congress from N.Y. (?) and was on his way to Washington. I shall set him to work to get my discharge for me and he will get it too.

We were cheered and the ladies waved their handkerchiefs at every little village and city that we passed and all the boats we met saluted us by blowing their whistles and ringing their bells. It was on continuous cheer from the time we left Phila until dark. After we entered into the slave states I noticed that more ladies saluted us than men.

The soldiers life is one of continuous excitement. If you write me before you get another letter from me you may address the ~~58 Regt Fortress Monroe~~ 58 Regt P.V. Fortress Monroe to be forwarded.

We will leave G.H. Cresly(?) at the hospital in Baltimore sick with Erysipelas (?). I will write again in a few days. Until then believe me yours in Love,

N.F. Marsh