

Camp Stone well 13th Nov 1776/63

Dear Sister.

I had certainly intended to write sooner, but the ^{12th} after my wife & Childerton, we were ordered from camp to the line of battle along the banks of the Rapidan & commenced throwing up a line of works to connect with the Chancellorsville line, we worked two days & have details working today we now have a line from Liberty Mills in Madison to Fredericksburg with the exception of a short distance from Chancellorsville to Fredericksburg so we prepared to meet the valiant Yorks at any point in Northern Virginia.

We have just ^{heard} that the Rockbridge Home Guards after performing deeds of valor & making marches of which the Army of Northern Virginia might be proud) have returned home. Their business ended all men with victory. Of which I am certainly glad, but I did not wish to receive another letter as desperated as your last. You will in the future I hope place more confidence in the heroes. Guards as they have proved themselves worthy of special confidence. But I trust that Auville has learned such a lesson, as not again to endeavor to impede your action or again aim at the destruction of the West Point of Va.

I suppose Pop Patton & Peyton have had their
fill of soldiering & are milling in the language
of Alex. Elsworth. "To retire to the shades of Miss
Yusene's bill's & spend the remainder of their
days in domestic tranquility."

I am still enjoying my box, our men received
them & have been living like princes, will not
consent to eat Confederate beef & bread.

My best love to the Payton & Patton Wives -

A. B.
P