

Excuse this scrawl as  
I have no writing desk &c  
Good Bye

A.G.B.

Marretton  
Oct 13<sup>th</sup> /63

Dear Sister.

As we have stopped to make  
stations I will employ my time  
in writing as our wife have a  
cook, so I do not have to  
cook. We left our camp on  
the Kopikau very unexpectedly  
on the 8<sup>th</sup> marched to Orange  
CA thence across the Kopikau  
thence to Madison CA thence  
to ~~this~~ Culpepper thence  
here, as yet have had  
no general engagement  
but continued skirmishing  
as the enemy seem dis-  
posed not to give us a fight  
but as Lee is pressing them  
very hard I suppose we  
will have a fight on  
the old plains of Manassas  
The Yankee army is very

Much weakened, we have  
so far captured above a  
thousand prisoners & Stuart  
is still bringing them in  
by small lots.

We every here know a great  
quantity of stores & destroyed  
the bridges on the railroad  
we are now on this left flank  
& Hill is endeavoring to get  
in this rear, but is some  
miles behind time, they  
(the Yankees) may succeed  
in reaching their entrench-  
ments around Centerville  
if not I think they will  
get such a thrashing as  
will learn them a lesson  
for some time to come.  
You may think that I am  
boasting too much, but  
through me may outnumber

them I do not trust in  
our own strength, but  
in the arm of an Omnip-  
otent & righteous God -  
I suppose I will lose  
another boy if you sent  
one by Chopin as he  
has not yet come up  
but I will be willing  
to lose anything to accom-  
plish the overthrow of the  
Yankees. If we do get  
into a fight, depend upon  
your brother will do his  
duty though death be the  
consequence, & what if I  
do fall? I trust I am prepared  
and what a cause to  
fall in! Fighting for every-  
thing we hold dear. But  
God can protect amidst the  
storms of war as well as elsewhere.