

Camp Stonewell Brig
Nov 10th /63

Dear Sister-

You have no doubt before this heard of our retreat from the Kupaharuck across the Rapidan. Just as I had finished my last letter & mailed it, the cannon commenced booming & we were soon ordered to reinforce Gen Rhodes at Kelly's Ford distant 10 miles, so we started at dark marched very fast to Kelly's, formed our line of battle, & were all ready for the enemy, but a courier came galloping up & ordered us back, so we again took up the line of march, & continued to march untill day light, reaching Culpepper C & X just as day was breaking, we again formed a line & fortified, the enemy soon made their appearance on our left & right, they immediately advanced on Gen Hill on the left charging his breast works, but were handsomely repulsed, with considerable loss. Night coming on we started again, cautious, with drawing from the enemies front & marched untill nearly day when we lay down to get a few hours sleep, as soon as it was day we forded the Rapidan & reached our breast works here last evening.

There were only two Brigades engaged at
the Miller, Hooker's, & Huy's, who were posted
across the Rappahannock, the greater part of
these Brigades were captured, though the enemy
lost very heavily, as they were compelled to
advance across a flat about a mile & a half
before reaching the works, & were exposed
to the fire of our batteries all the time, which
made great passages through their line but
they were soon reinforced & continued to
advance until they got within 100 yds of
the works when our men rose & fired, the
first column staggered & it is reported sur-
rendered, but another line coming up &
the ammunition of our batteries being out, our
men were compelled to surrender.

Whether Meade will continue to advance
or not I cannot say, but if he does we are
prepared for him & will give him a warm
reception, but I hardly think he will
advance as we are well fortified & have
a splendid position. I think though that
active operations are not over, but do not
know what the next move will be.

We are now at our old camp on the Rapid and
some of the men are again putting up huts, but
I will wait awhile & see if we will move.
Give my best respects to the Miss Logans, if you
have condescended to go to see them -
to our love etc.