

Foxs Gap on South Mountain M.D. July 9<sup>th</sup> 1865.

Dear Wife and Children

It is with pleasure that I seat myself to address you a few lines to let you where I am and that I am well at present. And I hope that this may find you all the same we have not received our mail yet so that I have not heard from home since the week before we left the Hieghts since their we have been on the go most all the while. Last Sunday, I wrote you a letter near Washington Monday we march through George Town and Washington City it rained all the while in that were an the [illegible] we took the cars there to Frederick we were till Tuesday night about 3 a 4 oclock P.M. in getting to Frederick then their we march about 4 miles west toward this place and yesterday we came on here. the object is to cut off Lees retreat we are trying bag his whole army if we can and it looks very much likely now for we have troops on all sides of him and are taking prisoners every day when we were in Frederick they brought about 900 we saw them and talk witht hem they were badly clothed some of them were barefoot others with very poor shoes. the most of them are sick of the war but few thinks that if they have a chance they will fight again their a good many wounded one among them so that we could see the affects of war. Some have only one arm some were lame showing that they were wounded in the legs or feet.

Yesterday they were fighting about 4 miles from here most all day we could hear the guns very plain even small arms but with not no great affect only taken few prisoners kild and wounded some but I know not the number on either side. no fighting going on today that we can hear we heard that Gen. Meads give Lee 24 hours to surander but how true it is I can not tell but hope that if it is so that they will give up you will know it before this reaches you that Vickburg was taken on the fourth we have it here as being true.

Washington City is not a very nice place taking the governments buildings out and some few others the rest is of the Southern style that is old fashioned Frederick is a small place but very fair for a southern city. yesterday we past throught Middle Town it is quite a village we are here where they fought last year but did not fight much here Gen. Rinno was killed here give my love to all our fridns and to Father and Mother tell Franks folks that Glisin has not come to us yet but he is all safe somewhere if he has written home since he has been gone from us I want you to write to me about it.

I send you all my best love from your faithful husband, Edward Sarris