Action Williamsburg
May 11th 1862

In Camp 3.5 miles from Williams on the Road to Richmond.

Dear Mrs., your kind and alluring note of the 6th of May reached me last night—and having time I take this opportunity of answering it. I am rejoiced to hear that you are regaining your health and hope by the time you receive this you will be entirely restored to good health. I wrote a letter to you after the Battle of the 6th at Williamsburg in which our Regim

Eagle with American flag

me was a very active part and although we were in the thickest of the fights we came out of it with the loss of 4 killed & 5 wounded. Dear Mrs., it is nothing to go into battle but after the battle it is so full to look around and see so many dead lying in all shapes as a few hours before was full of life and as active as I am but such is War! I passed over the battle field on the morning of the 6th. I went to go and look up the dead and wounded if there was any and such a site met my eyes I hope and pray I may never see again. We wiped the Enemy but we had done cowardly poor to deal with and many a man was made to bite the dust—before they gave way it was night when we silenced their fire but we had no idea what we had wiped them and we made big tales...
to go into it early next morning but when morning came the
enemy had retreated leaving their dead & wounded on the
field we captured a great number of prisoners he was -
to get a way I saw about 350 of them they are drafted in all Kinds
of clothing and all of them says they calculate to be wounded
before they reach their destination I saw a Capt. Lee of the
5th Carolina Regiment he says all he has left out of 89
men is 5 and they are wounded with him self 8th Regiment with
them down little craft. The Fight took place two miles from
Williamsburg the enemy having strong fortifications there with
they had to abandon Williamsburg is quite a place containing
I suppose about 5 or 6 Thousand people the enemy tried
hard to burn it but they were followed so close they had no
chance they left the town full of wounded and dead
the Dead was buried by our men and the wounded will be
taking care of so we are about 2 1/2 miles after Williamsburg
and only 35 miles from Richmond the Southern army is
so broke at I hardly think they will make much of a
standt although it is hard to tell what they calculate to
do this thing I do know that those that were in the fight
of the 3rd is completely demoralized and it will take
a long time to make them fight again and if all comes
General McClellan will not give them time to secure
their army as he has said he would push them to the
wall and rather make them fight or surrender but enuff
you need not feel uneasy about one for so far I am well
and in good spirits - You say you have heard that the
Union Army is but half fed such is not the case as far
as we are concerned we have sometimes two days to go
hungry but it is seldom the case as for our clothing they
are good and if one had none one would half to throw it
away So dear Miss you need not worry yourself about me
in regard to clothing or what kind of food I have
but yet I thank you a thousand times for offering to give
me what ever I want. I wish this war was over for there has
been black smiths shot and homes enuff left deserted
Oh dear Miss if you could only see the Country I have
travelled over so poor old Virginia so the houses burned
the land with no one left to till it it is all now -
to hard to think of but with is Seecession and I know
Seecession means desolation & destruction. We are nigh
on a Union mans farm the left everything behind me

This will find you all well, I will close.

P.S. Thanks for the stamps.

Write soon as you get this.

and went and joined our army. I suppose the rebels has confiscated his property and now he has got it back again and I do not believe all the rebels in the seceding States can reach it from us. There is no back up movements known and if nothing happens to us we will be in Richmond before next week. There is a rumor that -"Birkefor" is in our possession. I do not put much reliance in the rebel -as New Papers is very scarce we can tell very little what is going on. We have not got our money yet and I do not believe we will get it in some time. I will then give you some money not to keep for me but you can give it for yourself as for the money that John has got of mine I suppose he has spent it, and that is the best of it. So I will not say any thing about it until I return. I will say more about this in my own. Give my love to Mr. Edmund Ann Louise Henry & Clara, not forgetting to retain a share for yourself till Anna. Don't I thank her for her letters and them papers in the. I will try and answer as soon as I can do so. Very,

[Signature]