



Dear Papa:

When I wrote this morning I was hurried from my morning letter by the arrival of our tents, which had already gone half a dozen miles and arrived about 10 o'clock. We are in our old position, and are refoxing in style. The Colonel has now all the men at work cleaning up the camp, and a good work it is. Cleanliness is necessary to good health, and acting on that principle I gave Tom my unwashed clothes to wash. So I may not remain so long in the ones I have on. I make out to keep as clean as a Soldier can. The hurrying of raw troops into the field it seems was countermanded at Washington, which accounts for our remaining at our present camp. We have not received full particulars of the affair at Manassas but have enough to know that it was not to our advantage. Nearly every man I heard speak about going to Manassas was willing and ready. Our camp is thought to be one of the first towards Stonewall; but his face is turned rather against Washington than Alexandria. Clay M'Cauley was yesterday appointed by Gen Sturgis as Division Quartermaster Clerk – a very nice position. I am glad he got it. Wm Kennedy of the "Times," also Brigade – same position. Clay's appointment was unexpected, so he says. (Page 2) An old College friend – to Sturgis secured him the place. If we should happen to move further South, I may need some money as it may be difficult for you to send it direct to me, and you may if you please send me 20 or 30 dollars. Lt. Col Rowe, made requisition this afternoon for a Sergeant Major's Uniform for me and I will not get a dress uniform until I see how my new clothes will fit. My duties are not hard and I could not be better situated, thanks to you for it. I think there would be no difficulty getting express goods here from Alexandria, although I am uncertain as to charges. Whether citizens could come out to our Camp is a question yet to be decided. Reymer in citizens clothes could attain no satisfaction at the War Department and came ahead, and by chance happened to ride into our Camp. Col Austin will give you any further information on the subject. I think citizens could pass. Lt. Col Rowe says he thinks there would be no difficulty.

And so a stranger is in Lancaster. Sis tells me the boy looks like Fred. I would like to see P. I got Sister's letter and will try and answer it in a few days. If you get a chance don't forget the revolver. Although I don't need it now, I may should we change our position. I intend writing to Mr. Mather & Mr. Montague soon. Maj Austin is unwell and will likely bring you this letter. I don't drill with the Company, although Maj Hershberger puts the non-com-officers through occasionally, I among them. The Adjutant John Stewart is (Page 3) a Horace Greeley man, and that suits you and me. However he is a very nice fellow as are all the Officers. I am his clerk. I only read H Greeley's 2d letter to Lincoln, and I am expecting an account of both preceding letters in your next letter. Greeley is my man, Lincoln is rather too Border State-ish, and as Greeley says, let him make his Generals conform to the late bills passed by Congress, to the letter, as he did Fremont to the Confiscation Bill, when in

Missouri. Things look bogus in the valley, and I hope may soon be remedied. From 30 to 40,000 men have gone to Pope over the Manassas R.R., and I can't account for it how the Rebels went to Manassas and cut up a little flurry and no one there to attend to them. Just to think of the fruitless campaign of McClellan, Ditches & death on the Peninsula, and a golden opportunity lost in part of Manassas. Fremont would and should have been dismissed months ago, had he enjoyed such opportunities as McClellan and failed to improve them. The best thing Lincoln could now do would be to consolidate the Armies of Pope, McClellan, & Burnside, and give Fremont Command. It is difficult to see light at the end of the darkness, or to see how this thing will end. Maj Austin is going. I must close. My love to all, Good bye. My love to all. Maj will give you all particulars.

Yr loving son

Fred.

(Page 4) Is the Lancaster story a secret in Greencastle?