

Camp opp
Fredericksburg
March 26/43

Dear Guss,

How have you
been & what in the
devil have you been
doing, as I have not
heard from you for some
time, I have concluded
to write you a few lines,
I am officer of the day
& in consequence of
that, I have nothing in
the world to do, I have
been acting understater
to day & had a darkey
buried, I expect to be
compelled to go on
picket Sunday, I tell
you, there is quite a
difference between picketing
at the Cross roads
near Norfolk & the

picketing we do here, the
old rebels are on the opp-
osite side of the Rappahannock
& we do picket on
this, they are as busy
as bees constructing
rifle pits & batteries
& as far as the eye can
reach, you can see
nothing but battery
after battery, I only
hope when General
Hooker moves, he don't
move left in front
for if he does, there
will be a young
fellow of my size
keeping a sharp look
out for the rebel
pills, we are now
under marching orders
& will move in less
than a week, we now

have 138,000 men
for duty & I think
before many weeks, you
will hear of the Army
of the Potomac doing
something, all our
wagons have been
turned in, as well
as all our baggage
sent to Washington
& all we are allowed
are shelter tents, & I
pack mules to each
company, I saw Capt
Ripka in town
(Philadelphia) when I
was home last in
February, he told me
he had been sick &
even then he did not
look very well, How
is Brian, Tell Mrs
Carr, the cows that

were struck by lightning
we all night

Remember me to Capt
Tony, also to Capt
Redmond Lewis

Brinley, Johnson, Blakey
at the rest I write

Down to your old friend
I no. 2. Carpenter

Street,

Capt I no. 2. Carpenter
Indigo 150 Post P. O.
Brigade

3^d Division

1st Army Corps
Army of Potomac
Washington

P. O.