

Napoli Nov. 23d 1861

Dear Father

Since I wrote to you I have been looking anxiously for a letter telling me when to meet you at the cars

I hope you have not given up coming to spend the winter or at least a part of it with us

Nothing would give us so much pleasure as to have Father and Mother with us for a little season before we depart to be here no more If you can not do _____ it seems to me that you would not loose pecuniarily by coming

We have plenty of provisions and we should esteem it a great privilege and no burden to have you with us all winter

I suppose provisions are more plenty with you than money but in the long run they are all the same.

The fare from Columbus to Randolph would be about \$1.30 a person.

If you should come all the way by rail road it would cost about \$8.00 for both

I should like to have you give me at least a weeks notice for I am gone sometimes all of the week except Saturdays

If you come I wish you would bring a new note and exchange it for the old one which will amount interest and principle to seven hundred and seventy one dollars and twenty four cents as I reckon the interest on the first of December next

If you want I can send you 8 or 10 dollars and you can add that to it

If you bring the colt to Columbus as I spoke of that could be indorsed upon it as soon as I get it

I am not anxious about the colt but would take it at its value here less the expense which I should incur in getting it here

Our folks are all well and anxious to see Grand Pa and Grand Ma

Your affectionate son

H. D. Lowing

Near Fairfax Court House Va. Dec 2 [1862]

Dear Father

I can not tell how glad I was to receive your letter this morning I did not know but you had forgotten that you had a son Henry But it assured me that I still had a Fathers prayer and a Fathers blessing I am well and have been most of the time for the last few weeks When I first came here I was sick about half of the time and felt right well none of the time It seems as though ones system went through with a process of fermentation The cold chilly nights and warm days the poor water the sickening odors arising from the filth of old and new camps and change of diet change of sleeping apparatus strains all the vital machinery to the utmost And our Regiment is melting away very fast before the ravages of dysentery fevers and lung difficulties and Rheumatism. Not many considering the number have died but full one third are unfit for duty Two of our surgeons [Dwight W. Day and Corydon C. Rugg] have been sick at a time and the chief surgeon [Henry Van Aernam] is now sick at Washington but hopes to join the Regiment this week You inquire where the front is I suppose you would learn by the Papers better than I could tell you When I wrote Thoroughfare Gap and Warrenton 12 miles distant were the Front in that direction but now we consider Fredericksburg in that direction while we are over the Front to the West and South of Washington

This morning about 1 o'clock the long roll sounded and we were ordered to be ready to move in one hour Which way we did not know as soldiers are kept in blissful ignorance of what is going to be done We have since learned that scouts reported Rebs moving towards us from the West but we do not credit it as Gen Stohls [Julius Stahel] has been out reconnoitering within 8 miles of Winchester They encountered a Regiment of White's Cavalry ["White's Rebels," an independent Virginia cavalry company commanded by Captain Elijah Viers White] at Berryville and the 9th N.Y.V. [Cavalry] charged upon them took about 50 prisoners (some of which passed here yesterday) 8 wagons with tents &c 40 or 50 horses as many beef cattle and only lost one man killed and three wounded and two taken prisoner But we are held in readiness to move any minute our baggage is in the wagons and everything ready for a skedaddle or a fight The boys in our Regt are all eager for a fight The men in the old regiments do not appear to relish fighting very much and they say that the new Regiments will not after they have been in a few hard contests but I think that depends upon results. I find that nearly all of McLellands [George B. McClellan] men stand up for him but I notice they are also disheartened and demoralized It is a common saying with them "the rebellion can never be put down by fighting" But I believe it can and have great confidence in [Ambrose E.] Burnside and [Franz] Sigel You see that Burnside has already put the Rebs upon the defensive that of itself is a great point gained

Henry D. Lowing, December 2, 1862, continued

The country does not appear ever to have been very thickly settled or well cultivated the villages were small and scattering and they were about as well cultivated I should judge as the old P_____ farm The fields skirted with underwood make me think of them The soil is quick and lively but not very strong Timber is mostly oak and chestnut small pines and spruce but no good sowing timber The climate I think is excellent though the rainy season may change my opinion

The people that are here now are mostly northern people who have settled within the last 10 or 15 years and appear like our folks The Aristocracy have left I suppose for further South *behave* The Negroes so far as I have seen them are industrious and ~~before~~ well A great many of them are teamsters and handle a farm horse or a six mule team better than the white men If they had been employed as soldiers they would have saved thousands of precious lives which have gone to an early grave in the process of acclamation

A man who has lived here 16 years and owned a grist mill and saw mill and farm said it was his candid opinion that 500 negroes who are already acclimated and used to hard fare would do more service in the field than 1000 northern men Any one seeing these old skeleton Regiments numbering from 250 to 400 and seeing how fast the new Regiments shrivel down would be of the same opinion I have no horse and no servant The Regiment left before I returned from Pa. so i had no way to bring one except at my own expense and risk Some of the boys in the 9th Cavalry say they will confiscate one for me and then when I can pick up a curly head I shall be rigged But I am in no hurry either for a horse or a servant as I mess with the Surgeons which costs me less and we live tip top by jerks We have plenty of fresh beef and salt pork and sugar and coffee and tea and dried apples and most of the time soft bread some potatoes plenty of rice and beans a very little butter and milk For Thanksgiving we had chicken roast beef oysters green apple pie butter cheese sweet cake custard &c and the field officers to dine with us As for sleeping apparatus we get along very well when not marching and I have always got along first rate so far even then

The first night after a march I with the Surgeons and most of the sick got into a barn When we left Thoroughfare Gap it was in good deal of a hurry and as we had but one Surgeon fit for duty the Coll. [Lieutenant Colonel Henry C. Loomis] requested me to see to the sick which were left behind as one Surgeon must go with the Regt. I see them all started that could walk and all that could be carried in the ambulances and left 7 in the hospital and 4 nurses to take care of them until the ambulances could go to Gainesville six miles and return for them I then started after the Regiment about 3/4 of an hour ahead of me and overtook it just after dark just as they were dismissed at Haymarket I run around in the dark until I found a large shoe shop that had not been burned put a guard in it and ordered them to build up a fire and got 25 of the sickest ones in it where

Henry D. Lowing, December 2, 1862, continued

they could be warm and dry and out of the rain and had a good place to sleep myself
The next day we got the sick on the cars at Gainesville and I was directed to have charge
of them or at least those able to walk and take them off at Fairfax Station The rest went
on to Washington We got there in the night and it was rainy and dark and muddy I
found an empty church took possession left two men in charge and then piloted up there
about 80 of the halt and lame and weak of our own and other Regiments of our Division
The floor and rostrum was covered just as thick as they could lie I brought coffe and
crackers and cakes and had a large camp kettle full of coffe and an other of tea made for
them and with plenty of hard tacks they made out a comfortable supper and slept like
hogs and I with the rest warm and dry When we pitch our tent in camp the first thing we
do is to fix a bed up from the ground of boards when we can get them and if not with
poles on crotches and then cover with hay if we can get it if not with boughs The next
move is to build us a fire place of some kind We have now a good brick fire place the
chimney topped out with sticks and mud so that I am just as comfortable as I would be in a
pioneer shanty and you know that is good enough I can sleep just as well on a board with
a blanket or two as on a bed My duties are just as hard as I am a mind to make them
There is always enough to do visiting the sick &c but what belongs especially to my
calling is not always so easy to get at Three Sabbaths our Regiment have marched but
for the last three we have had religious services and one service on Thanksgiving day
and there has been quite an improvement from Sabbath to Sabbath Last Sabbath was the
pleasantest I have spent in camp We had a prayer meeting in the officers drill room just
completed and the Wigwam was full to overflowing and we were greatly blessed I had a
letter from Jane Sunday morning All well children go to school Had a letter from
Samuel also Love to all

Your affectionate Son

H. D. Lowing

How are Pl ___'s folk Who ___ the station How does your church matter get along
&c

Near Fredericksburg
Dec. 31st 1862

To Father & Mother and Brother & S__

To day I received your letter I was very glad to hear from you and very sorry to hear that you were so poorly

When I was at home in the fall I thought you much better and was hoping that you would continue to improve Thjs was why I proposed to you to help me make some arrangements about my family. But I see from your letter that probably it would not be prudent for you to make any change or have any more on your mind

When I came out here I was in hopes that this backbone of the Rebellion would be broken before spring so that I could come home but I see no such good prospect before us Matters look dark We have done nothing since the fight on the 13th but to all appearance preparing for a backward movement They have been gradually removing cannon and now we are under marching orders There appears to be very little enterprize For every little excuse the officers run to Washington and Bumb around there The Generals fight just when they can not help it so it seems to me The men are discouraged and have not that confidence in the management of the war to inspire them with courage or fortitude

For some reason "Israel can not stand before their enemies" I believe that the revoking of [Maj. Gen. John C.] Fremonts proclamation and his decapitation and the heading off of Jim Lane and Gen [David] Hunter and Gen. Philips [Brig. Gen. John Wolcott Phelps] all such as are in real earnest and the rejection of Black Soldiers lies at the bottom of our difficulties So far as I have seen and heard the pro Slavery officers and soldiers are here for pay and nothing else They are all the time croaking about "fighting for niggers and saying that we never can whip the Rebs They have smarter officers than we have and this war never will be ended by fighting &c &c" They are a dead weight upon us Sigel commands the confidence of the troops more than any Gen in this quarter but he has no chance to do much in view of this it looks to me that we have a long tug before us and I should like to get my family near where they ought to be if I should never return

The Lord has taken very good care of me I have lost but one nights rest since coming into Virginia Then we marched until 12 o clock at night and lay on the ground or stood around little fires till morning

I have been troubled with piles and am unable to march now but would keep around if we remained in camp I shall go to Washington if I can in the Officers hospital Direct your letters as usual That is the surest way for me to get them

Henry D. Lowing, December 31, 1862, continued

Love to all and do not take any trouble about my family that you feel would be a burden to you in your delicate state of health In the circumstances I do not think it would be prudent for you to make any change in your affairs Perhaps I could make arrangements with Samuel or Sylvester if I should want to

Yours

H. D. Lowing

N.B. There is no certainty of our moving at present and I shall not try to go to Washington

Camp Near Brooks Station
March 28th 1863

Dear Cousin

It is now four weeks since I returned to camp I have spent the time very pleasantly We have had services every Sabbath and prayer meetings six evenings in the week and and a sing one evening in each week. The brethren have been very much strengthened back sliders have come back to Jesus and some have really been converted in camp as I believe Our Regt is A. No. 1. all around It has the best camp the best quarters the cleanest streets the best hospitals the best officers and can make more corduroy road and put more bullets into the target than the three other Regt's in our Brigade all combined

I have bought me a Silver tailed Virginia Rocker that rides as easy as a rocking chair and able to carry me and my baggage without hardly feeling it So that I consider myself now prepared for the Summer campaign which we are hoping will be very short It is now raining and the roads are still bad but we are expecting to be moving soon We shall soon have corduroy all over the country this side of the Rapahanac if the weather does not dry up But this is a regular Pennsylvania for showers and mud

We have strong hopes now that Rebeldom will collapse without much more squeezing As I have a horse that has been through the Bull Run fight I shall be very willing to come home without seeing a battle Yea this is my daily prayer that God will so bring this war to an honorable end that there will be no more slaughter no more widows and orphans made and that our mourning may be turned into joy

The money which you have paid out on my account I expect Jane will be ready to pay you when she comes She had been having some teeth extracted when she last wrote otherwise my folks were well They are having interesting meetings in Napoli which you know must cheer my heart very much

I received a letter from John this week folks well Dr. Amsden is acting as Brigade Surgeon of his Brigade

Our Army is in good condition if the Rebs do not cry enough I think we shall be in Richmond before many weeks roll around

But still I know that all our hopes may be blunted It is not by might nor by power but by my Spirit saith the Lord I fear that the Nation are not yet prepared to do justice to the poor black man If they were I should be confident that peace would come speedily

Henry D. Lowing, March 28, 1863, continued

As it is I hope with trembling But the heart of the king is in the hands of the Lord and He turneth it as the rivers of water are turned so I pray the hearts of this people may be turned unto the Lord and this people learn that "righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a reproach to any people"

As my sheet got full before I wrote half what I wanted to to Fathers folks you may let them see this if you please To save postage and envelops which are rather scarce here I put this into Fathers letter

Love to all your folks

Yours sincerely

H. D. Lowing

Head Quarters 154th Regt N.Y.V.
Camp Near Brooks Station
May 21st 1863

Dear Father

I received yours of May 14 last evening I was glad to hear particulars about mother I Should like to hear from you or Jane about the Fruit trees &c Tell Jane I wish her much joy on her occasion of new relations As to the wood-house I told Jane I thought it better to be put off until towards fall What would you think about putting on an addition on the North side of the house large enough for kitchen and small wood-house — say 16 x 24 and then an open stoop over the Pump and what would it cost the kitchen underpined with stone and the wood-house boarded down to the ground like the East side of the Chamberlain house Suppose you make a close estimate and send to me I should build cheap to correspond with the rest of the house If I should stay in the service until fall I think I could build it and I do not see any immediate prospect of getting out Every one here appears to be settling down to the conviction that we are not going to move again very soon The army is generally preparing summer Quarters and preparing to take it easy

A great many Regt's are going out of service and this army is growing smaller daily

I believe I have written to you the particulars if not It is all sumed in saying that we whipped the Reb's soundly on Saturday and Sunday and did not know it and laid still untill they went down and whipped [Maj. Gen. John] Sedgewick back over the River

The skedadling of the 11th Corps really gave the Enemy no important advantage Our lines after the doubling in of the right wing were shorter and stronger than before and our loss probably was not as great as theirs for our artillery made winnows through them and our Regt and the 73d P.V. pilled them until they were all most surrounded and then lost more in retreating than when fighting

But you may not be able to understand how we whipped the Rebs and lost ground at the same time The answer would be plain if you could see the ground and understand how the thing was managed Let me give you a diagram

[DIAGRAM]

The dots show you that the fight was mostly in the woods. There was open ground where the rifle pits were and to the south and west. The figures denote the Regt's of our Brigade The 2d Brigade of our Division in which is Dr. Amsden had been detached and were not in the fight at all There was some open ground at the forks of the Road on the

Henry D. Lowing, May 21, 1863, continued

center where was a large brick Tavern There was some cleared back of the Tavern towards the Ford in front of the Line of battle Sunday noon The fighting on Thursday and Friday south of the plank Road was merely feeling of our lines by the enemy But Saturday about 5 or six P.M the ball opened in earnest by the attack in the rear of the right wing and you will see that our Rifle pits faced the wrong way The truth was the 1st and 3d Divisions were surprised and routed Our Brigade held the Rebs until all but 8 pieces of artillery and the baggage wagons passed and then they fell back and the 1st and 12 Corps held the enemy at the edge of the woods lying about 20 rods back of the pits and our forces held the plank Road at the right to the close of the battle The enemy made desperate efforts to turn our right Saturday during the night which were handsomely repulsed every time — The moon shone so brightly that they could fight almost as well in the night as in the day time — But the greatest slaughter of the enemy was Sunday morning on the center The enemy were determined to break our center but it was like splitting an iron wedge The road leading to the Ford was lined with our reserves along which artillery and troops could be moved readily to and from the front The ground was such that our fire could be concentrated upon their massed columns and our artillery and troops were handled splendidly First the artillery would mow them then fall back and the infantry would hold them until another line of fresh batteries would be all ready guns double shotted with grape and canister then the infantry would fall back and the artillery would rake them and so they kept doing for five or six hours falling back just fast enough to bait them on when the Rebs got tired of such feed and fell back If Gen. [Joseph] Hooker had then followed them I believe nothing could have saved the Rebell army from annihilation. But our army lay there waiting for the enemy to renew the attack until Tuesday night In the mean time the Rebs had mustered their remaining forces and driven Sedgewick across the river and by that move out Generald Hooker and he with drew unmolested to this side of the river

The golden opportunity has again slipped unimproved when it will come again God only knows

I feel very bad for I am very anxious to have the war over so that I can return to my home and enjoy the society of my family and friends

Your affectionate Son

H. D. Lowing

[On printed letterhead, "Not A Star Must Fall," depicting an eagle clutching a flag above a burst of stars.]

Camp S. C. Noyes
Near Brooks Sta
June 4th 1863

Dear Father

This morning I received your letter glad to hear about mother and very glad to hear that your health was better I feel anxious about Little Henry but I am confident that you do the best that can be done and just as well as though I was at home I am glad to hear that the fruit trees are out and the grading done I suppose it is pretty dull business to watch the grocery I believe I sell goods any how even if did not make much profits I think the general tendency of the market for most goods is down ward so it would not be surprising if we sell some yet even less than cost but if we do we wont whine but charge it to the loss side of the book and try again I want you to make the people think that we are bound to sell goods just as cheap for cash as any body and should make quite a difference where they bought quite a quantity

Last Monday we cleared off a place for holding meetings yesterday we built a stand and to day were calculating to build seats for the congregation but about 4 o clock we had orders to be ready to march at sunrise At sunrise the Regt. marched out in about two hours they came back but under orders to fall in at a moments notice so you guess that church building does not progress much to day The move was general this morning throughout our while line, but it has not amounted to anything and I expect we are being very handsomely fooled by the Rebs

I think that when we do hear from them they will be nearer Vixburg than Washington But it is evident that our folks are afraid of a Rebel Raid into Maryland or on Washington or into Pa. but I think the great danger is in the West Time will tell I am not feeling very strong now days though not much if any pain but a want to energy and strength and ambition

Love to Mother and Sylvester & Emily

Yours

H. D. Lowing

West Branch of Goose Creek
on the Alexandria & Winchester Turnpike
July 22, 1863

Dear Father

From appearances I judge that we shall not move before afternoon and may be not to day for our Pioneers are building a bridge of logs across the stream The Bridge was burned by our folks when we went up on the other side of the creek on our way to Maryland

We marched from Berlin where I dated my letter to Jane last Sabbath and arrived here Monday afternoon We appear to be in no particular hurry I think when Lee had crossed the river that the game was up The report is that our cavalry are harrowing their rear but I do not think it will amount to much we will probably get hurt about as hard as we hurt them but at Hagerstown and Williamsport I believe we might have made a big haul if we had had a little more dash Over carefullness in military matters does not prove to be the safest course It looks now as though we should wait untill the Rebs get their fragments together and a supply of ammuniton and prepared to give us another desperate fight and thousands of lives be lost I can hardly be reconciled to the sad failure for we had every reason to believe that the ammuniton of the Rebs after the battle of Gittisburg was nearly exhausted We should have been out of it had not been for the fresh supplies constantly coming in and we knew that they had no such facilities for getting it Our prisoners said that the ferry boats which carried them across the river were loaded back with ammuniton but that was a slow way of supplying a large army But for some good reason not yet to be seen an over ruling Providence permitted them to escape

We ought to be thankful that he gave us the victory at Gittisburg and yet has not given us anything to boast of We had a narrow escape at Gittisburg The first day of the fight we were whipped and they drove us out of the town and we were compelled to fall back to our position on the hights East of the Town This in the end proved to be our salvation Gittisburg is in a valley the mountains on the West gradually though unevenly sloping down to within a mile or so of the Town on the West and nearer on the North and then rising on the East perhaps a rough drawing will help to give an idea of the scituation

[Sketch map with following paragraph of notes.] Figure 2 is a pond that helped to protect our right Fig 3 is Cemetery hill commanding the town a very strong position From 3 to 4 was our left and and the position of each army there was about equal There was the heaviest fighting and there was the heft of our army but you see from the position that we could move from right to left much easier than they

Henry D. Lowing, July 22, 1863, continued

The first day's fight was on the West of the Town if we had held the ground and fought the battle there we should have been routed

On the first day of the fight (Wednesday) our Brigade was sent through the Town to take a position and in 15 minutes after they got into position they were flanked and nearly all taken prisoners some wounded and a few killed Only about 20 of our Regt came out 50 of our Regt had been sent out on Reconnoissance and were not in so that after the Battle we had only about 70 men Some convalescents have returned to the Regt from Washington but we have only a little over a hundred now Dr. [Corydon C.] Rugg was three days a prisoner in Gettysburgh but was treated like a gentleman and had full liberty to do all he could for the wounded 150 of our Regt are prisoners in the hands of the enemy and 130 in Alexandria when they are exchanged we shall have quite a Regt again The talk is now that these Regiments are all to be filled up with drafted men Why Frank Morton should turn so short a corner I do not see but the world is large if one wont another will You can buy where you think best and if you keep square up you can be as independent as any of them That is the way I want to do business then they can take no advantage of us We should have been paid by this time if we had not been upon the go all of the time but the pay rolls are now made out and I think it will come around in a week or two

Your Son

H. D. Lowing

Warrenton Junction Va.
July 26th 1863

Dear Wife

Your 4th letter came in last evening Very glad I was to hear from you For the last few weeks we have been where the mails came very irregularly and very few papers come to the army consequently we have known very little of what has been going on except in our corps

Saturday evening Brother Hibbard [Chaplain Oliver D. Hibbard, 64th New York, of Randolph, Cattaraugus County] stayed with me He was from the Hospitals at Gettysburgh and looking for his Regt. The whole Potomac army I suppose is now in supporting distance of this place We are between Lee's army and nearer to Richmond than he is Our Lieut Coll. [Dan B. Allen] Adjutant [Alanson Crosby] Capt. M. B. Cheney and six privates have gone to Cattaraugus for 300 drafted men to fill up our Regt. This whole army is to be filled up in the same way Yesterday we had services in the morning and in the afternoon many of us attended services at the Chaplains quarters of the 134th Regt N.Y.V. We have not had services in 4 weeks until yesterday

The 64th Regt went into the Gittsburg fight with 201 muskets and lost 98 in killed and wounded and missing Lemuel Owen is among the missing and they think he is a prisoner Charles Brown is well and at Gettysburgh I received a letter from Brother Norton [Rev. William W. Norton of Otto, Cattaraugus County, Lowing's eventual replacement as chaplain of the 154th New York] and one from Brother Hunt [Rev. W. I. Hunt of Ellington, Chautauqua County] last evening Mrs. Norton's health is very poor I am troubled some with boils but they have not been very severe I think you had better fix some itch ointment for yourself and children Dr. [Corydon C.] Rugg fixed some and it has cured us all up Take ½ tin cup ful of fresh lard or mutton tallow melt it but not have it hot add 2 table spoonfuls of sulphur 1 of salt peter and ¾ of oz of Venice Turpentine mix well The Turpentine is not very essential

I know you must feel very lonely and much more so on account of the unhappy changes in your fathers family. I pray God may sustain and comfort you and open the way for me to return to my family It does not seem to me the war can continue a great while at the rate things are moving now but we may have reverces and it may continue a year or so longer As long as I can hear from you every week and learn that you are all in comfortable health I feel quite contented so long as I am well enough to do duty

We may stay here or near here for some weeks Unless Lee makes some m[ove] I think we shall wait for recruits before we take the offensive again

Henry D. Lowing, July 26, 1863, continued

We are expecting pay in a few days and then I will send you some money It has cost me a good deal to live for the last month Some of the time I have paid \$.50 per day for horse feed and \$.50 a meal for victuals and some of the time have had very little to eat

Much love to May Frankie and Henry

Your affectionate Husband

H. D. Lowing

Lookout Valley Nov. 17th 1863

My Dear Wife

You can hardly imagine how much pleasure it gave me to receive your & May's letters yesterday. Since Dr. [Corydon C.] Rugg had come I had a great anxiety to hear from Father and when I learned that he was quite well again it was a great relief I think it wise perhaps to put off the painting but can not see why there should be so much delay about finishing up though nothing will spoil unless it is the cellar-way Yesterday the Regt. was paid up to November and you will receive by mail from the Pay Master a check for \$200. I want you to let Father have \$160 of it to put into the Store Out of the 40 I would like to have you pay up your debts to Father &c and the ballance if there is any you can keep to use along as you need I have now \$240 in the Store and this 160 will make just 400 so you can keep the run I would like to know by your next just how much money you have left out of the 40 so that I can keep the run Be particular in stating all about the business Have the potatoes been dug & how many How much wood on hand &c &c When I get to thinking about home all these things are arising and you can not imagine how these little matters interest me The snow storm May wrote about and the airs little Henry puts on &c &c were just what I wanted to hear about The weather here has been very much like the warm pleasant weather we had when I was home some rain but not heavy We have a fire place in our tent and are quite comfortable The Rebs keep firing away at us and some of their shot and shell come rather unpleasantly near but then we get used to them as we do every thing else Occasionally one gets hurt but the casualties have been very few

Write often Tell Frankie that his Pa will soon write to him

Kiss little Henry for me

Your affectionate husband

H. D. Lowing

I should like to have you give me
at least a weeks notice for I am
gone sometimes all of the week except
Saturdays

If you can I wish you would bring
a new note and exchange it for the
old one which will amount interest
and principle to seven hundred and
seventy one dollars and twenty four
cents as I reckon the interest on
the first of Dec. 1861

If you can I can send you \$500
to dollars you can add that to
it

If you bring the gold to Columbus as
I spoke of it could be indorsed
upon it as soon as I get it

I am not anxious about the gold
but would take it at its value less
the expense which I should incur
in getting it here

Our folks all well and anxious
to see you. Pa and Grand Ma

Your affectionate son
J. D. Lowrey

Star Fort. Fort. Court
Gloucester, Va. Dec 2

Dear Father

I can not tell how glad
I was to receive your letter this
morning I did not know but you
^{had} forgotten that you had a son Henry
But it assured me that I still had
a Father's prayer and a Father's blessing
I am well and have been most of
~~the time for the~~ last few weeks
When I first came here I was sick
about half of the time and felt
right well none of the time
It seems as though our system
went through with a process of ~~fermentation~~
fermentation The cold chilly nights
and warm days the poor water the
sickening odors arising from the
~~filth of~~ ~~alms~~ and new camps and
change of diet change of sleeping
apparatus ~~that~~ ~~the~~ strains at all the
vital machinery to the utmost
And our Regiment is melting away
very fast before the ravages of dysentery
fevers and many difficulties and
Rheumatism. Not many considering

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the number have died but full
one third are unfit for duty
Two of our surgeons have been sick
at a time and the Chief Surgeon is
now sick at Washington but hopes
to join the Regiment this week
You inquire when the front is I suppose
you would learn by the Paper, better than
I could tell you. When I wrote I thought
fore Base and Warrenton 12 miles distant
was the front in that direction but
now we consider Frederickburg in that
direction while we are on the front
to the West and South of Washington
This morning about 4 o'clock the
long roll sounded and we were ordered
to be ready to move in one hour. Which
way we did not know as soldiers we
kept in blissful ignorance of what
is going to be done. The long roll sounded
that scouts reported Keb's moving towards
us from the West but we do not credit it
as Gen. Stahls has been out reconnoitering
within 8 miles of Winchester. They encountered
a Regiment of White's Cavalry at Berryville
and the 9th N. Y. Co. charged upon them
took about 50 prisoners (some of which
passed here yesterday) & wagons with tents, etc.

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be 40 or 50 horses as many beef cattle
and only lost one man killed and
three wounded and two taken prisoners
But we are held in readiness to move
any minute our baggage is in the
wagons and everything ready for a
skedaddle or a fight. The boys are
all eager for a fight. The men in
the old regiment do not appear to
relish fighting very much and they
say that the new Regiment will not
after they have been in a few bad
contests, but I think that depends upon
results. I find that nearly all of McJelms
men stand up for him but I notice
they are also disheartened and demoralized.
It is a common saying with them "The
rebellion can never be put down by
fighting" but I believe it can and have
great confidence in Burnside and
Sigel. You see that Burnside has already
put the Rebs upon the defensive that of
itself is a great point gained.
The country does not appear ever to have
been very thickly settled or well cultivated.
The villages were small and scattering
and they were about as well cultivated

Dec. 2, 1862 p. 3

I should judge as the old Perryman's
make me think of the soil is
quicker and livelier but not very strong
Timber is mostly oak and Chestnut
small pines and spruce but no good
rowing timber. The climate I think
is excellent though the spring season
may change my opinion.
The people that we here now are mostly
northern people who have settled within
the last few years and appear like our folks
from left I suppose for further South.
The Negroes so far as I have seen them
are industrious and behave well.
A great many of them are teamsters and
handle a four horse or a six mule
team better than the white men.
If they had been employed as soldiers
they would have saved thousands of precious
lives which have gone to an early grave
in the process of acclimation.
A man who has lived here 18 years and
owned a grist mill and 200 mules and
four said it was his cordial opinion
that 500 negroes who are already acclimated
and used to field work would do more
service in the field than 1000 northern
men. Any one seeing these old settlers
regret

Dec. 2, 1862 p. 4

numbering from 250 to 400 and seeing
how fast the new Regiment shined
down would be of the same opinion
I have no horse and no servant
The Regiment left before I returned
from Pa. so I had no way to bring one
except at my own expense and risk
Some of the boys in the 9th Cavalry say
they will confiscate one for me
and then when I can pick up a
crack head I shall be rigged
But I am in no hurry either for
a horse or a servant as I mess with
the Surgeons which costs me less
and we live ~~tip top~~ by gawks
We have plenty of fresh beef and salt
pork and sugar and coffee and
tea and dried apples and most of
the time soft bread some potatoes
plenty of rice and beans a very
little butter and milk
Gen. Banks giving me had chicken
roast beef ~~and~~ oysters green apple
pie butter cheese sweet coke custard
&c. and the field officers to dine
with us As for sleeping apparatus
we get along very well when not
marching

Dec. 2, 1862 p. 5

and I have always got along first
rate so far ever then
The first night after a march I with
the surgeons and most of the sick
got into a burn. When we left
Thoroughfare Gap it was in good shape
of a burn and as we had but one
Surgeon fit for duty the Coll.
requested me to see the sick which
were left behind as ~~the~~ one
Surgeon must go with the Regt.
~~and we had only~~ I see them all
started that could walk and all that
could be carried in the ambulances
and left 7 in the hospital and 4
nurses to take care of them until
the ambulances could ^{go} to Germantown six
miles and return for them I then
started after the Regiment about 3/11
of an hour ahead of me and overtook it
just after dark just as they were
dismissed at Floydmarket I ran
around in the dark until I found
a large shoe shop that had not been
burned put a ^{guard} ~~guard~~ in it and
ordered them to build up a fire
and get 25 of the sickest ones in

Dec. 2, 1862 p. 6

it when they could be warm and
dry and out of the rain and had
a good place to sleep myself
The next day we got the sick
on the Cars at Boonesville and I was
directed to have charge of them or at least
~~able~~ those able to walk ^{and take} ^{the rest} ^{went on to} ^{Washburn}
them off at Fairfax Station. We got there
in the night and it was raining and
dark and muddy & found an empty
Church ~~and~~ took possession before
two men in charge and then
piloted up them about 80 of the
halt and some and weak of our
own and other Regiments of our Division
The floor and rostrum was covered
just as thick as they could lie
& I brought coffee and crackers and
cakes and had a large camp
kettle full of coffee and an other
of tea made for them and with
plenty of hard tacks they made out
a comfortable supper and slept
like hogs and I with the rest
warm and dry When we pitch our
tent in camp the first thing we
do is to fix a bed ^{up from the ground} of boards when

Dec. 2, 1862 p. 7

we can get them and if not with
 poles or crutches and then even with
 they if we can get it if not with
 boughs. The next move is to build
 us a fire place of some kind.
 We have now a good back fire
 place the chimney topped out with
 sticks and mud so that I am
 just as comfortable as I would
 be in a pioneer's shanty and you
 know that is good enough.
 I can sleep just as well on a
 board with a blanket or two as
 on a bed. My duties are just as hard
 as I am a mind to make them. There is
 always enough to do visiting the sick &c
 but what belongs especially to my calling
 is not always so easy to get at
 three Sabbath's our Regiment has marched
 but for the last three we have had religious
 services and one service on Thanksgiving
 day and there has been quite an improvement
 from Sabbath to Sabbath. Last Sabbath
 was the pleasantest I have spent in Camp.
 We had a prayer meeting in the officers
 drill room just completed and the
 Wagon was full to overflowing and
 we were greatly blessed. I had a letter from
 home Sunday morning. All well children
 go to school. Had a letter from Samuel also.
 Love to all. Yours affectionately
 W. Downing

Please my dear friend
 I have been very
 much interested in
 your letter
 and I am glad to
 hear that you are
 all well
 I am
 ever
 your
 friend
 W. Downing

Near Fredericksburg

Dec. 31st 1862

Dear Father, Mother and Brother

Today I received your letter. I was very glad to hear from you and very sorry to hear that you were so poorly. When I was at home in the fall I thought ^{you} much better and was hoping that you would continue to improve. This was why I proposed to you to help me make some arrangements about my family. But I see from your letter that probably it would not be prudent for you to make any change or have any more serious illness.

When I come out ^{here} I still in hopes that the ~~the~~ backbone of the rebellion would be broken before spring so that I could come home but I see no such good prospect before us. Matters look dark. We have done nothing since the fight on the 13th but to all appearance preparing for a

Dec. 31, 1862 p. 1

backward movement they
have been gradually removing
common and now have one
under marching orders
There appears to be very little
enterprise. For every little
excuse the officers run
to Washington and Burn
around them. The generals fight
just when they can not help
it so it seems to me
The men are discouraged
and have not that confidence
in the management of the
war to inspire them with
courage or fortitude
For some reason Israel can
not stand before their enemies
I believe that the revoking of
Bremont's proclamation and
his decapitation and the heading
off of Gen Lane and Gen Hunter
and Gen Philips all such as
are in real earnest
lies at the end the rejection
of Black Soldiers lies at
the bottom of our difficulties

Dec. 31, 1862 p. 2

Go far as I have seen and
heard the prof Stoney officers
and soldiers are here for
pay and nothing else
They are all the time croaking
~~the~~ about fighting for rights
and saying that we never can
whip the Rebs They have snubbed
officers than we have and
this war never will be
ended by fighting as we do
They are a dead weight upon
us Sigel commands the
confidence of the troops
more than any Gen in this
quarter but he has no
chance to do much
In view of this it looks to
me that we have a long try
before us and I should
like to get my family near
where they ought to be if I
should never return
The Lord has taken very good
care of me I have lost the
one night rest since
coming into Virginia

when we searched until 12 o'clock
at night, and lay on the ground
or stayed around better fire
all morning
I have been troubled with the
and am unable to much, now
but would keep around
if we remained in camp
I shall go to Washington if
I can in the Officers hospital
I meet your letter as usual
that is the surest way for me
to get there
Love to all and do not
take any trouble about my
family that you feel would
be a burden to you in your
delicate state of health
for the circumstances I do not
think it would be prudent
for you to make any change
in your affairs. Perhaps I could
make arrangements with Samuel or
Sylvester if I should want to
yours
J. D. Conner

When you are in
the hospital
I shall go to
Washington
I meet your letter
that is the surest
way for me to
get there
Love to all
do not take
any trouble
about my
family
that you
feel would
be a burden
to you
in your
delicate
state of
health
for the
circumstances
I do not
think it
would be
prudent
for you
to make
any
change
in your
affairs
Perhaps
I could
make
arrangements
with
Samuel
or
Sylvester
if I should
want to

Camp New Brooks Station
March 28th 1863

Dear Cousin

It is now four weeks since I returned to camp & have spent the time very pleasantly. We have had services every Sabbath and prayer meetings six evenings in the week and a sing one evening in each week. The brethren have been very much strengthened back sliders have come back to Jesus and some have really been converted in camp as I believe. Our Regt is A. No. 1. all around. It has the best camp & the best quarters, the cleanest streets, the best hospitals, the best officers and can make more corduroy road and put more bullets into the target than the three other Regts in our Brigade all combined. I have bought me a Silver Tailed Virginia Rucker that rides as easy as a rocking chair and

March 28, 1863 p. 1

able to carry me and my baggage
without hardly feeling it So that I
consider myself now prepared for
the summer campaign which
we are hoping will be very short
It is now raining and the roads
are still bad but we are expected
to be moving soon We shall
soon have Corduroy all over
the country this side of the
Potomac if the weather does
not dry up ~~it~~ But this is
a regular Pennsylvania county
for showers and mud
We have strong hopes now that
Rebeldom will collapse without
~~any~~ much more squeezing
As I have a horse that has been
through the Bull Run fight I
shall be very willing to come
home without seeing a battle
You this is my daily prayer that
God will so bring this ^{war} soon
to an honorable end that ^{there} will
be no more sloughs no more
widows and orphans made and
that our mourning may be turned

March 28, 1863 p. 2

into joy
The money which you have paid
out on my account & expect
gone will be ready to pay ~~my~~
you when she comes
She had been having some teeth
extracted when she lost water
otherwise say folks were well
They are having ~~an~~ interesting
meetings in Napoli which
you know must cheer my
heart very much
I received a letter from John
this week folks well Dr. Ansdun
is acting as Brigade Surgeon
of his Brigade
Our Army is in good condition
if the Reb's do not cry enough
I think we shall be in Richmond
before many weeks will ~~pass~~
around.
But still I know that all
our hopes may be blasted.
It is not by might nor by
power but by my Spirit with
the Lord. I feel that the
Nation are not yet prepared

March 28, 1863 p. 3

to do justice to the poor black
man. If they were I should be
confident that peace would
come speedily.

As it is I hope with trembling
But the heart of the king is in the
hands of the Lord and He turneth
it as the rivers of water one
turned so I pray the hearts of
this people may be turned
unto the Lord. ~~And~~ this people
learn that righteousness exalteth
a nation but sin is a reproach
to any people?

As my sheet got full before I
wrote half what I wanted to
to Father folks you may let
them see this if you please
Do some postage and envelops which
are rather scarce here I put this
into Father's letter

Love to all your folks

Yours sincerely

W. D. Downing

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Headquarters 154th Regt
N. Y. W.

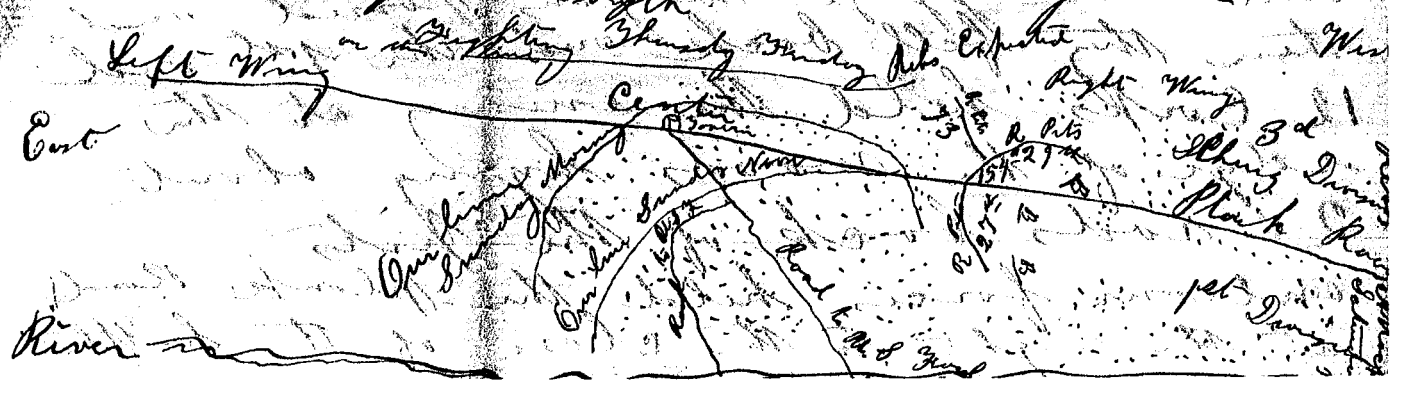
Camp Near Brooks Station
May 21st 1863

Dear Father.

I received yours
of May 14 last evening & was
glad to hear particulars about
mother & should like to hear
from you & Jane about the Girl
this &c. Tell Jane I wish her
much joy on her occasion of
new relations. As to the wood house
I told Jane I thought it better
to be put off until towards fall
What would you think about
putting on an addition on the
North side of the house large
enough for kitchen and small
wood house say 16 X 24 and
then an open stoop over the Porch
and what would at cost the
kitchen underpinned with stone
and the wood house boarded down
to the ground like the East side

of the Chombelain house. Suppose
you make a close estimate and
send to me. I should build cheap
to correspond with the rest of the
house. If I should stay in
the service until fall I think
I could build it, and do not
see any immediate prospect
of getting out. Every one here
appears to be settling down to
the conviction that we are not
going to move again very soon.
The army is generally preferring
summer quarters and preferring
to take it easy.
A great many Regts are going
out of service and this army
is growing smaller daily.
I believe I have written to you
the particulars if not it will
surround in saying that we
whipped the Reb's soundly
on Saturday and Sunday and
did not know it ^{and} until they
went down and whipped Sedgewick
back over the River.
The shuffling of the 11th Corps

really gave the Enemy no important advantage. Our lines after the doubling in of the night ~~was~~ ^{were} shorter and stronger than before and our loss probably was not as great as theirs for our artillery made windows through them and our Regt and the 73rd P.N. pulled them until they were almost surrounded and then lost more in retreating than when fighting. But you may not be able to understand how we whopped the Pats and lost ground at the same time. The answer would be plain if you could see the ground and understand how the thing was managed. Let me give you a diagram.



The dots show you that the fight was mostly in the woods. There was open ground where the rifle pits were and to the south and west. The figures denote the heights of our Brigades. The 2d Brigade of our Division which I. M. Annesley had been detached and were not in the fight at all. There was some open ground at the forks of the Road on the Center where was a large brick Govern. There was some cleared back of the Govern towards the front of the line of battle Sunday noon. The fighting on Thursday and Friday was a mere feeling of our lines by the enemy. But Saturday about 5 o'clock P.M. the ball opened in earnest by the attack in the rear of the right wing and you will see that our Rifle pits forced the enemy way. The truth was the 1st & 3d Divisions were surprised and routed. ~~The~~ Our Brigade held the pits until all but a few pieces of artillery and the baggage wagons passed and then they fell back and the 1st and 12 Co's held the enemy at the edge of the woods lying about 20 rods back of the pits and our forces held the Plank Road at the right to the close of the battle.

my writing
1242

(May 21 1863)

The enemy made desperate efforts to turn our right Saturday, during the night which were handsomely repulsed ~~for some~~ - The moon shone so brightly that they could fight almost as well in the night as in the day time - But the greatest slaughter of the enemy was Sunday morning on the center. The enemy were determined to break our center but it was like splitting on a wedge. The road leading to the Ford was lined with our reserves along which artillery and troops could be moved readily to and from the front. The ground was such that our fire could be concentrated upon their moving columns and our artillery and troops were hurled splendidly. First the artillery would move then they fall back and the infantry would hold them until another line of fresh batteries would be all ready guns double shotted with grape and canister then the infantry would fall back

and the artillery would rake
them and so they kept doing for
five or six hours falling back
just fast enough to beat them
on when the Rebels tired of such
feed and fell back. If Gen.
Hooker had then followed them
I believe nothing could have
saved the Rebel army from
annihilation. But our army
lay there waiting for the enemy
to renew the attack until Tuesday
night. In the mean time
the Rebels had surrounded their
remaining forces and driven
Sedgwick across the river
and by that move out General
Hooker and he withdrew unmolested
to this side of the river.
The golden opportunity has
again slipped unimproved
when it will come again
God only knows.
I feel very bad for I am very
anxious to have the war over
so that I can return to my
home and enjoy the society of
my family and friends.
Yours affectionate son
W.D. Sowing

But you may not be able to
 understand how you will find
 the pits and last ground at
 the same time the one
 would be at point of your course
 as the ground and limitations
 for the pit was...

It was produced from a...

The...



Detail of diagram by H. O. L. 21 May 1803 p. 3. 10076 245.
 BETTYS BURE, LOOKING SOUTH!

fooled by the lies
 I think that when we
 do hear from them they
 will be never expecting
 that Washington
 But it is evident that
 our folks are not
 of a Rebel Road into
 Navy land or on Wash
 in this pa. but I think
 the great danger is in
 the West. You will
 tell I am not feeling
 very strong now day
 though not much of
 any pain but a
 want of energy and
 strength and ambition
 Love to Mother and
 Hyacinth & Emily
 yours M. D. Thomas

June 4, 1863 pp. 4 + 1

NOT A STAR MUST FALL



Camp S. C. Mays
 New Brooks Sta

June 4th 1863

Dear Brother

This morning
 received your
 letter glad to hear
 about mother and
 very glad to hear
 that your health
 was better I feel
 anxious about you
 Henry but I am
 confident that you
 do the best that can
 be done and just as
 well as that I was
 at home I am glad
 to hear that the fruit
 trees are out and the
 grading done I suppose
 it is pretty dull business

NOT A STAR MUST FALL



Camp S. C. Hoy,
Near Brook, Va.
June 4th 1863

1863

Dear Mother

This morning
I received your
letter glad to hear
about another one
was glad to hear
that your health
was better I feel
anxious about little
Henry but I am
confident that you
do the best that can
be done and just as
well as though I was
at home I am glad
to hear that the fruit
trees are out and the
grading done I suppose
it is pretty dull business

June 4, 1863 p. 1

to watch the grocery
I believe I will get
any how even if I did
what make much profits
I think the general
of the market fair
goods is doing
we it would not be
surprising if we sell
some yet when has
cost but if we do
we want when
change it to the loss
try again I want
to make the people
that we are bound
sell goods just as
cheat for cash as
my body and should
shock quite a differ
where they bought
quite a quantity
to anything and I expect
we are being very hard

June 4, 1863 pp. 2+3

West Branch of Green Creek
on the Alexandria &
Winchester Turnpike

July 22 1863

Dear Father

From appearances I judge
that we shall not move before afternoon
and may be not to day for our Pioneers
are building a bridge of logs across
the stream. The Bridge was burned
by our folks when we went up
on the other side of the Creek on
our way to Maryland.

We marched from Barbours where
I dated my letter to Gove last
Sabbath and arrived here Monday
afternoon. We appear to be in no particu-
lar hurry I think when Lee had crossed
the river that the game was up.
The report is that our Cavalry are
harrowing their rear but I do not
think it will amount to much
we will probably get hurt about
as hard as we hurt them but at
Hagerstown and Williamsport I believe

we might have made a big haul
if we had had a little more
dash. Our carefulness in military
matters does not prove to be the
safest course. It looks now
as though we should wait until
the Rebels get their fragments
together and a supply of ammunition
and prepared to give us another
desperate fight and thousands
of lives be lost. I ^{can} hardly be
reconciled to the sad failure
for we had every reason to believe
that the ammunition of the Rebels after
the battle of Gettysburg was nearly
exhausted. We should have been
out if it had not been for the
fresh supplies constantly coming
in and we knew that they had no
such facilities for getting it.
Our prisoners said that the ferry
boat, which carried them across
the river was loaded aback with
ammunition but that was a slow
way of supplying a large army.

But for some good reason not yet to be seen an over ruling Providence permitted them to escape

We ought to be thankful that he gave us the victory at Gettysburg and yet ~~has~~ not given us anything to boast of. ~~We had a narrow escape~~ at Gettysburg. The first day of the fight we were whipped and ^{they} drove us out of the town and were compelled to ~~take~~ ^{fall back to our} position on the heights East of the town. This in the end proved to be our salvation. Gettysburg is in a valley, the mountains on the West gradually though unevenly sloping down to within a mile or so of the town on the West and rising on the North and then rising on the East. Perhaps a rough drawing will help to give an idea of the situation.

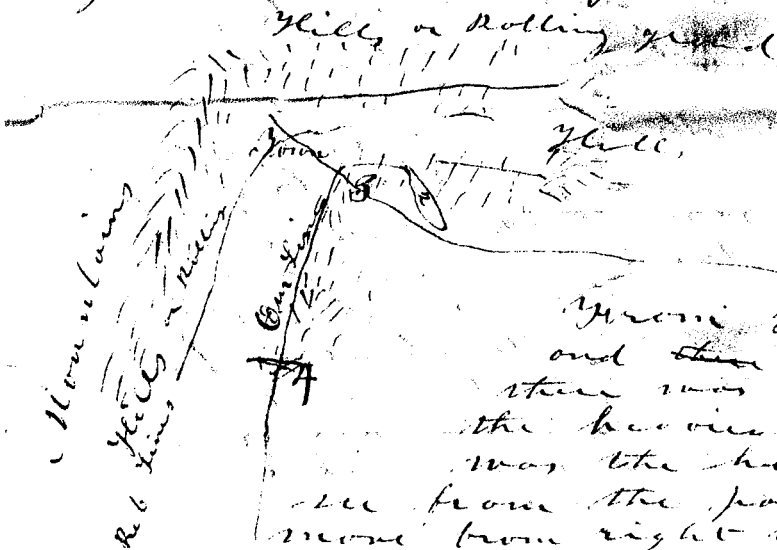


Figure 2 is a point that helped to protect our right. Fig 3 is Cemetery hill commanding the town a very strong position.

Ballinnon Township

From 3 to 4 was our left end and then the position of each army there was about equal. There was the heaviest fighting and there was the heart of our army but you see from the position that we could move from right to left much easier than they

give an idea of the position

gives a rolling ground

Dig no 2 is a pond that

is a hill

is a very strong position

Bullinnamur

From 3 to 4 was our left end and then the position of each army then was about equal. There was the best fight and then was the sheet of water army but you from the position that we could you more from right to left much more than they

The first days fight was in the West of the
Brown if we had held the ground and
fought the battle there we should have
been routed
On the first day of the fight (Wednesday)
our Brigade was sent through the
Down to take a position ^{on the 15th}
morning after they got ^{to the position} they
were ^{all taken} ^{few killed}
prisoners. Only about 20 of our Regt
came out ^{at 50} of our Regt had been
sent out on reconnaissance and were
not ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{battle} ^{we} ^{had}
only about 70 men. Some ^{convalescents}
have returned to the ^{front} ^{Washington}
but we have only a little ^{over a hundred}
now. Dr. Ruggs was ^{there} ^{as} ^a ^{prisoner}
in ^{Gettysburg} but was ^{treated} ^{like}
a gentleman and had ^{full} ^{liberty}
to do all he could for the wounded.
150 of our Regt or prisoners in the hands of the
enemy and 130 in Alexandria when they
are exchanged we shall have quite a Regt
again. The talk is now that three Regiments
are all to be filled up ^{with} ^{the} ^{drafted} ^{men}
Why General Meade should ^{do} ^{so} ^{that} ^a
come I do not see but the ^{world} ^{is} ^{large}
if one wont another will ^{you} ^{can} ^{buy} ^{when}
you think best and if you ^{keep} ^{square} ^{up}
you can be as independent ^{as} ^{any} ^{of} ^{them}
That is the way I want to do business ^{if} ^{they}
can take no advantage of us. We should have
been paid by this time if we had not been
upon the go all of the time but the pay rolls
are now made out and I think it will come
around in a week or two. Yours Son
W.D. Lowing

Warrenton Junction Va.

July 26th 1863

Dear Wife

Your 4th letter come
in last evening Very glad I was
to hear from you For the last few
weeks we have been where the
mails come very irregularly
and very few papers come to the
army consequently we have known
very little of what has been going
on except in our corps
Saturday evening Brother Glibb
stayed with me He was from
the hospitals at Gettisbury and
looking for his Regt. The whole
Potomac army I suppose is
now in supporting distance
of this place We are between
Lee's army and nearer to Richmond
than he is Our Lieut Coll. Adjutant
Capt. M. B. Cheney and six privates
have gone to Cottovingus for 300
drafted men to fill up our
Regt. This whole army is to be

July 26, 1863 p.1

joined up in the same way
Yesterday we had services in
the morning and in the afternoon
many of us ~~went~~ attended services
at the Chaplain's quarters of the
134th Regt N. Y. St. We have not
had services ~~for~~ in a week,

until yesterday
The 64th Regt went into the
Gettysburg fight with 201
muskets and lost 98 in killed
and wounded and missing
Lemuel Owen is among the
missing and they think he is
a prisoner Charles Brown
is well and at Gettysburg
I received a letter from Brother Norton
and one from Brother Hunt
last evening Mrs. Norton's health
is very poor I am troubled some
with boils but they have not
been very severe I think you
had better fix some itch
ointment for yourself and
children Dr. Rugg fixed some

July 26, 1863 p. 2

and it has cured us all up
Take $\frac{1}{2}$ tin cup full of fresh lead or mutton
tallow melt it but not how it hot add
2 table spoonfuls of sulphur 1 of salt petre and
 $\frac{3}{4}$ of Venice Turpentine mix well

I know you must feel very lonely
The Turpentine is ~~not~~ not very essential
and much more so on account
of the unhappy changes in your
fathers family. I pray God may
sustain and comfort you and
open the way for me to return
to my family. It does not seem
to me the wor. Can continue
a great while at the rate things
are moving now but we may
have reverses and it may continue
a year or so longer. As long
as I can hear from you every
week and learn that you are all
in comfortable health I feel
quite contented so long as I
am well enough to do duty.
We may stay here or near here
for some weeks. Unless Lee reaches
some one I think we shall
wait for recruits before we
take the offensive again.

July 26, 1863 p. 3

We are expecting you in a few days and when I will send you some money it has cost me a good deal to live for the last month. Some of the time I have paid \$50 per day for horse feed and \$50 a meal for victuals, and some of the time I have had very little to eat.

Much love to May, Frankie and Henry

Your affectionate

Husband

G. D. Downing

July 26, 1863 p. 4

Lookout Valley Nov. 17th 1863

My Dear Wife

You can hardly imagine how much pleasure it gave me to receive your & Mays letters yesterday. Since Dr. Rugg had come I had a great anxiety to hear from Father and when I learned that he was quite well again it was a great relief. I think it wise perhaps to put off the painting but can not see why there should be so much delay about finishing up though nothing will spoil unless it is the Cellar - way. Yesterday the Rgt. was paid up to November and you will receive by mail from the Pay Master a check for \$200. I want you to let Father have \$160 of it to put into the Store. Out of the 40 I would like to have you pay up your debts to Father & me and the balance if there is any you can keep to use along as you need. I have now \$240 in the Store and this 160 will make just 400 so you can keep the run. I would like to know by your next just how much money you have left out of the 40 so that I can

Nov. 17, 1863 p.1

N.B. It may be a week or two before you get
the check do not wait for it before writing but
keep the run ^{keep the stream constantly flowing} Be particular in stating
all about the business How the potatoes
been dug & how many How much wood
on hand &c &c When I get to think
about home all these things are
arising and you can not imagine
how these little matters interest me
The snow storm May wrote about
and the air little Henry puts on
we are were just what I wanted
to hear about The weather here
has been very much like the warm
pleasant weather we had when
I was home some rain but not
heavy We have a fire place in
our tent and are quite comfortable
The Rebels keep firing away at us
and some of their shot and
shell come rather unpleasantly
near but then we get used to
them as we do every thing else
Occasionally one gets hurt but the
casualties have been very few
Write often Tell Frankie that
his Pa will soon write to him
This little Henry for me
Your affectionate husband
Y. D. Loving

Nov. 17, 1863 p. 2

Linesville (PA) Herald
Tuesday, November 10, 1903

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TUESDAY EVENINGS,
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JOB PRINTING A SPECIALTY.
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UB LIST
No. Blade \$1.50

HENRY D. LOWING
Died at 8:30 o'clock p. m. November
9, 1903, at his residence in Conneaut
township, Crawford county, Pa., in the
77th year of his age. His last illness
was of a month's duration and at-
tended with suffering. In conversa-
tion with those around him he said
that the memory of his life was pleas-
ant and the future looked bright. He
expressed it all when he said: "I
have done all I could for my family,
I have done all I could for the church,
I have done all I could for the com-
munity and now I want to go Home."
The funeral services will be con-
ducted at 11 o'clock Thursday, No-
vember 12, at the Congregational
church, Conneaut Center, by the
pastor, Rev. Horace Palmer; inter-
ment in Conneaut Center.
Surviving members of the family,
wife and five children, Mrs. C. M.
Potter, Conneaut; F. C. Lowing, Troy,
Ohio; H. S. Lowing, who resides at the
old homestead; S. W. Lowing, of the
Linesville Herald; Mrs. Jennie Von
Bockern, Flora Vista, New Mexico.
He was a kind and loving father.
Henry Dyer Lowing was born at
(Gainsville) Silver Springs, N. Y., May
29, 1827. He accompanied his parents
who moved to the farm (the late home
of deceased) in 1834, and helped
clear the land of forest. After re-
ceiving a common school education he
entered at age of 17 Kingsville college
which he attended two years. He
taught school upward of 12 years.
April 21, 1853, Mr. Lowing married Miss
Nancy J. Pierce, of Conneaut, Ohio.
He was pursuing the study of law
when he received a call to the min-
istry in 1856, having been known as an
active worker in the church, a tem-
perance lecturer and an untiring ad-
vocate of the abolition of slavery
which had influenced his political
affiliations with the Free Soil party—
paved the way for his participation in
the first organization of the Republi-
can party which called him to service
to the State as member of the State
Legislature in 1878 and again in 1880;

He became converted at the
age of fourteen, joined the church of
his parents, Congregational, and since
the time of his entry into the ministry
continued active in the Christian
cause. From the pastorate of the
Pierpont church he went to Napoli, N.
Y.; chaplain in the army; returned
to his home church, called to pastorate
of First Congregational Church at
Neosho, Mo., returning in 1873 and
completed twenty-five years pastorate
at Conneaut Center Congregational
church, retiring eight years ago. The
loving tribute paid to Mr. Lowing by
those who knew him was to say that
he was a self-made man.

He joined the One Hundred and Fifty-
fourth Volunteer Infantry as chap-
lain on September 23, 1862. He was
honorably discharged for physical
disability at Chattanooga, Tenn. His
regiment was attached to the Eleventh
Corps and he participated in the
battles of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg
and Mission Ridge.

In 1881 he purchased the Linesville
HERALD and after a time disposed of
his financial interest to his son but
always continued in the editorial ca-
pacity.

CARD OF THANKS.

We desire this card of thanks to
convey our gratitude and thankfulness
to all neighbors and friends for kind-
ness and aid extended and rendered in
sickness and bereavement.

MRS. H. D. LOWING AND FAMILY.

Linesville Herald, Linesville, Pennsylvania, Tuesday, November 10, 1903

HENRY D. LOWING

Died at 6:30 o'clock p.m., November 9, 1903, at his residence in Conneaut township, Crawford county, Pa., in the 77th year of his age. His last illness was of a month's duration and attended with suffering. In conversation with those around him he said that the memory of his life was pleasant and the future looked bright. He expressed it all when he said: "I have done all I could for my family, I have done all I could for the Church, I have done all I could for the community and now I want to go Home."

The funeral services will be conducted at 11 o'clock, Thursday, November 12, at the Congregational church, Conneaut Center, by the pastor, Rev. Horace Palmer; interment in Conneaut Center.

Surviving members of the family, wife and five children, Mrs. C. M. Potter, Conneaut; F. C. Lowing, Troy, Ohio; H. S. Lowing, who resides at the old homestead; S. W. Lowing, of the *Linesville HERALD*; Mrs. Jennie Von Bockern, Flora Vista, New Mexico. He was a kind and loving father.

Henry Dyer Lowing was born at (Gainesville) Silver Springs, N.Y., May 29, 1827. He accompanied his parents who moved to the farm (the late home of deceased) in 1834, and helped cleared the land of forest. After receiving a common school education he entered at age of 17 Kingsville college which he attended two years. He taught school upward of 12 years. April 21, 1853, Mr. Lowing married Miss Nancy J. Pierce, of Conneaut, Ohio. He was pursuing the study of law when he received a call to the ministry in 1856, having been known as an active worker in the church, a temperance lecturer and an untiring advocate of the abolition of slavery which had influenced his political affiliations with the Free Soil party — paved the way for his participation in the first organization of the Republican party which called him to service to the State as member of the State Legislature in 1878 and again in 1880.

He became converted at the age of fourteen, joined the church of his parents, Congregational, and since the time of his entry into the ministry continued active in the Christian cause. From the pastorate of the Pierpont church he went to Napoli, N.Y.; chaplain in the army; returned to his home church, called to pastorate of First Congregational church at Neosho, Mo., returning in 1873 and completed twenty-five years pastorate at Conneaut Center Congregational church, retiring eight years ago. The loving tribute paid to Mr. Lowing by those who knew him was to say that he was a self-made man.

He joined the One Hundred and Fifty-fourth Volunteer Infantry as chaplain on September 23, 1862. He was honorably discharged for physical disability at Chattanooga, Tenn. His regiment was attached to the Eleventh Corps and he participated in the battles of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and Mission Ridge.

Linesville Herald, Linesville, Pennsylvania, Tuesday, November 10, 1903, continued

In 1881 he purchased the Linesville HERALD and after a time disposed of his financial interest to his son but always continued in the editorial capacity.

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We desire this card of thanks to convey our gratitude and thankfulness to all neighbors and friends for kindness and aid extended and rendered in sickness and bereavement.

Mrs. H. D. LOWING AND FAMILY.