

Jefferson Frederick Co. Maryland June 26 63

Dear Sister

Having a few moments of leisure I thought I could not devote them to a better purpose than in writing you a few lines to let you know that I am still alive and well hoping you are the same I will try and tell you how we came here We broke Camp at Stafford the 12th of June and marched to Hartwood Church a distance of 12 miles in $\frac{1}{2}$ a day to commence on the next morning we started at 4 oclock and marched to Catletts station 23 miles the next morning we marched to Centerville a distance of 25 miles and stayed there one day. We marched from there to Goose Creek 25 miles further and camped there about a week and then we went out about 3 miles up the Creek on Picket day before yesterday we started from there and marched to the Potomac River a distance of 9 miles. Yesterday morning we started again at an early hour marched to this place a distance of 33 miles and you had better believe I for one was tired when we got here. There was quite a number of men died Yesterday on the march. When we got here it was raining and we had to stick up our tents and lay on the wet ground but I slept as sound as I would on a feather bed I dont know where we shall go from here or what we shall do when we get there We have got orders to march in an hour so I must close this letter and pack up

Give my love to all From your Brother

John N. Porter