

Head-Quarters, Army of the Potomac,

Feb. 8th 1864.

Dear Parents,

As I have got rested a little & have nothing to occupy my time I will write a few lines & tell you some thing about my trip down here.

Well after I left you I rode till 2 o'clock when we got to Bridgeport, where the train for New York was waiting, & I got on, and at 5 o'clock was in N.Y. I got on to an express coach & rode across the city, & took the through train for Washington, at half past seven I left Jersey City, & I rode on without changing cars till 6.30 Sunday

God bless & keep you dear parents, sister & Grandmother

morning. I went down to the Military
R. R. Depot. I waited till 9.30 when
I got on to the mail train, & at
2.30 P. M. was at old Brandy
Station, but when I started for
camp I did not hardly think
I should ever get there. The mud
has actually knee deep, & it was
so hot I could hardly breathe,
but I tucked my pants in my
boots, & waded through, but the
cattle & one cow got pretty
heavy before I got home, every thing
in the catchle came through &
without getting injured. The "con-
demned Yankees", had to search
it, but they did not try to
confiscate any thing. The Gen. has
not ~~yet~~ got back yet, & there
is no knowing when he will
come. I would report to Gen.
Humphreys. I thanked him for

his kindness in giving me the powder
& the rail, "Oh, yes very glad to
do it for you." They had quite a little
fight here a few nights ago. The
rebels came across the river to make
an attack, but our boys met
them & drove them back, they
had to ford the river in water
up to their armpits which I
do not think could have been
very pleasant considering the
temperature of the water this
time of the year. The Gen. has
been very nicely fixed up since
I went away, all the trees have
been trimmed up about ten
feet from the ground. The
brush and all rubbish cleared
away. & beautiful arches gateway
made of ever greens all around it
now we have got a very hand
some camp, I wish you could

see it, I had money enough
left to pay my debts. which
I did. I am now square with
all but you, which I be when
we get our pay. The 93^d is
expected here to-morrow, & the
Louises are going down to the
Station with their bawl to
escort them up. I dont know
but what I am just as well
off as they are now. they have
spent their money. I see their
friends, & now they have the
prospect of three long years
of service, while I have "only
nine mouths" as Carrie says
& have had a visit too. I wish
I was where this paper was made
I do not think it would be
long before I would be with you
again. but these months will fly
past swiftly while I have such
pleasant things to think about
as I have now, as ever your aff. Son