

Head Qrs. Army of the Potomac, Camp
near Falmouth, Va, Wednesday, Jan. 27.

My dear parents, I received your letter a few days since, & immediately answered it but I have not had any since, but still will write you a few lines. I have not yet returned. & so of course, I have not got the eagerly looked for box, his furlough ran out night before last, & he was reported absent without leave yesterday morning, if he is not careful he will get dismissed the service, just as our dear Capt. did, Spencer is delighted to think he has got a box in charge for him. There is a big movement going on just now, all yesterday & to day, troops have been going up the river. The 37th & 1st went past here yesterday noon. I guess they will see some hot work before long. Burnside & his staff went out this morning about daylight on a keen jump leaving the Hd. Qrs in charge of our reg^t. Yesterday I was on guard ~~and~~ & had a miserable time. It rained all night very hard, & the wind blew a perfect tornado, besides being freezing cold. I

got drenched to the skin, & then stood
four long hours on post, shivering as
if I would come to pieces, but worst
of all when I got to my tent, to find
the water most ankle deep in it, &
the blankets &c. soaked, but we were
not so badly off as some who had
to bail out their tents before they could
get in. I made a fire in the fire
place, & it is now getting pretty dry.
& I feel as well as if nothing had hap-
pened, there is nothing like being used
to a thing, & how I pity the poor fellows
who marched ~~yesterday~~, we ~~surely~~
ly, have nothing to complain of. I got
a letter from Cousin Will Edward night
before last which I will enclose, ~~also~~
also one from aunt Sarah, & one from
ma Bradley, & I confidently expect
one from you tonight. as soon as I get
one I will write again, please excuse
the bad looks of this letter as my knap-
sack & all its contents got soaked last night.
So good bye, much love to all,
Fred.

Give my love to Aunt W.