

Camp Chantilly May 2^d / 63

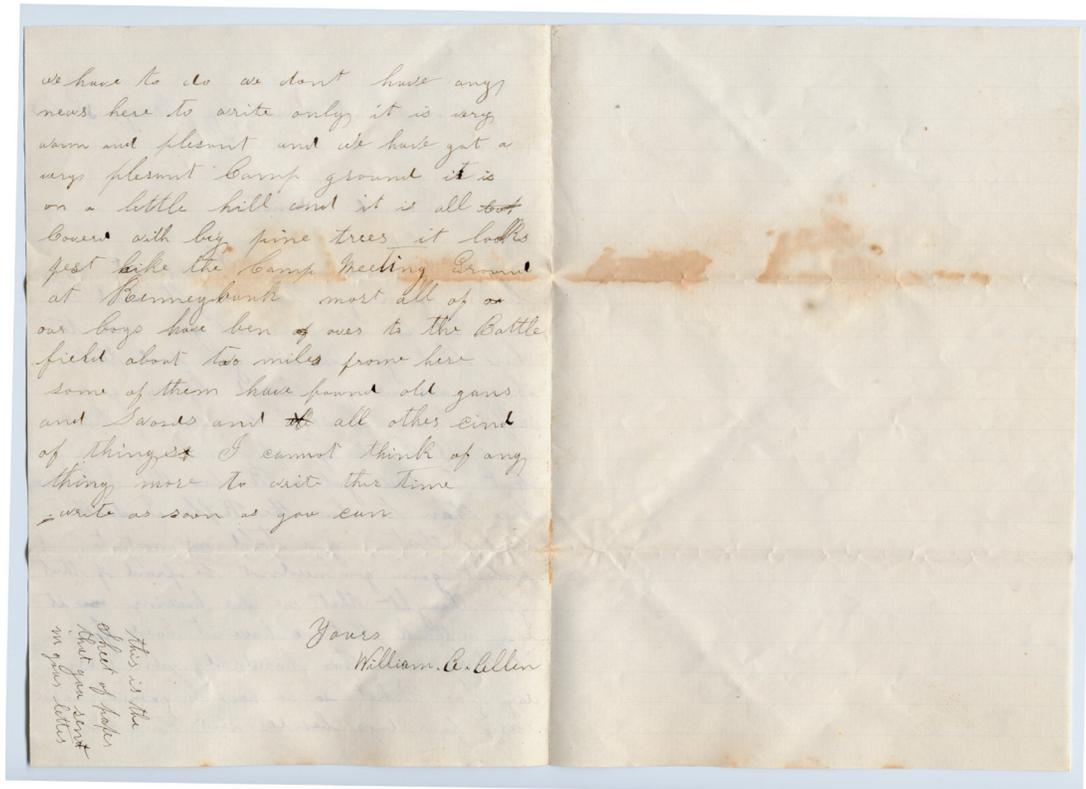
Friend Benton

I received a letter from you last night and I was glad to here from you and to here that you was well you said that if you was me you should bring your Rifle home I shall bring my Rifle home if I can git it home any way but I have got a Revolver that I ruther have than to have the Rifle I shall bring that – you told me not to enlist again you need not be afraid of that you thought that we was haveing [word scratched out] it easy we think that we have it hard for it takes over two hundred men every day for Picket so we have to go on a Picket every four days besides what other Duty

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by the Maine Historical Society

Date: May 2, 1863

Description A letter from Camp Chantilly, Fairfax Courthouse, Virginia, from William A. Allen, a Civil War soldier, addressed to "Friend Benton." (S. Benton Emery)The letter discusses bringing home a rifle and pistol when his enlistment is up.



we have to do we dont have any news here to write only it is very warn and plesant and we have got a very plesant Camp ground it is on a little hill and it is all ~~but~~ Coverd with big pine trees — it looks jest like the Camp Meeting Ground at Kenneybunk most all of ~~on~~ our boys have ben ~~of~~ over to the Battle field about two miles frome here some of them have found old guns and Swords and ~~aff~~ all other cind of thingsx I cannot think of any thing more to write this time write as soon as you can

Yours
William A Allen

[sideways]
This is the
Sheet of paper
that you sent
in your letter