



Camp Vernon near Alexandria, Sep 16

[Illustration]

Friend George

I thought

The Father of his Country left this Legacy I would write a few lines to his children! It is dear to us!

STAND BY IT!

to you to let you now that I am alive and kicking. I havent hurd a word from you since I left Camp Preble but I suppose your alive yet but dont now for a surtainty. Buisness haint verry driving just now all we have to do is to eat and lay round and smoke as for fighting we dont have much to do with it hear I like first rate I dont want to come home yet thare will be some fun wone of these days if nothing hapens. We are quartered on a hill about three miles from Alexandria it is a plesent

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Date: Sept. 16, 1862
Description: Cyrus Libby on battle of Bull Run, Virginia

place as eney wone would want and its
healthy out hear there is some of the boys
that have got the shakes and some have
got the chiles but there is now need of
it: if they would only take care of them
self selves. I suppose Frank Smith is
at home enjoying himself well so be I
enjoying my self first rate. how is Buck
Pretty feable I suppose he is a Brick
but not hard burnt. John Merritt has
resigned and I suppose he will go home
soon (Plaid Out) This is a grate country
out South there is plenty Niggars and
Mules they are the Principle Staples
of this country well they are good paying
Stock if only raised right. Oh there is
wone thing more that is plenty and that
is ghogs thares every quantity of them its
very good fun to shoot them about at good
as we have at all. They have had a little
Battle out to the Chain Bridge I believe
that is about six miles from hear

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But it dont trouble me eney, there
is some more of the Gorham boys going
home soon I believe home sick I
believe is the disorder that ails the most
of them I hope all that want to go will out
there there will be enough left - but there
is some that wont leave Fread Speed
is wone he is wone of the best boys
that left Gorham, you aught to com
out they are in need of Black Smiths
they pay high wages to a Boss for there
is a lot to do I suppose there is some
fore or five hundred Horses in ^{our Brigade} all
Cavelery and artilery and they need some
shuing for the roads are rough I for
wone am glad that I come now that
do. I suppose Old Gorham looks about
the same as ever and about as dul
I hear that they have got another Company
started well I hope they haint all
Cri babies they better not come if they are
for they will soon get scared out of it.

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Well Mr Patrick I wished you
had been out here at the Bull Run
scrape I never saw so much fun in
all of my life I tell you there was
some bully running and no mistake
There never was a horse in Maine that
could begin to creep up with some of
them I suppose I should have run as
fast as eney of them but I hapened to
have a horse to ride and so I had a
chance to see the fun. But the best
of it was there was wone of the boys from
our Village had a nice little mule but
when they began to chase us he thought
he could run faster than the mule
so he left him and took leg bail for the
woods it want Capt. Heald. Well on the
hole it is pretty good fun and I want
to see it out Give my best respects
to your Family and every boddy else
Write if you Please and oblige
The little runt Cyrus S Libby

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[Illustration] Volunteer Sappers and Miners from
The F. F. V.
Or Merchandise Contraband of War.

Mr. George Patrick
Gorham
Maine

Massa Butler, we's jest SECEDED from Harper's Ferry, whar we larn'd de trade ob making TRENCHES and FORTI'CATIONS. And now if yer wants enything done in *dat* ar line ob business, we's de Niggers to call upon. We *borrowd* des yer tools at de Ferry, and if dey is'ent *Contraban* we's gwine to carry em back at de close ob horsetilities.