

Camp Pitcher Dec 18 - 62
Dear Sister - Yours of the 7th came to hand
to day and as ther is no time to write
lik the moments after recieving
and reading a leter I'm take there
to write to let you know that we
have ben in the batle and got out
again we crossed the Rophanoc last
saturday about noon and
ameidatly went on to the field
of battle the shot and shell wised
thick and fast and the crack
of musketry and the roar of
artilery was terific but Gen"
Bery sat up on his horse
aperantly as cool as a cucumber
and our oficers done them selves
credit, there was a charge
made upon our batery by
the Rebs" and our Reg" was
orderd in to protect it ther
was a Oficer rode up and says
17th Me" you times has come.
do your duty, when Gen Bery
shouts now boys do honor to your state

Camp Pitcher Dec 18 - 62
Dear Sister - Yours of the 7th came to hand
to day and as ther is no time to write
lik the moments after recieving
and reading a leter. I'm take there
to write to let you know that we
have ben in the batle and got out
again. We crossed the Raphanoc last
saturday about noon and
ameidatly went on to the field
of battle the shot and shell wised
thick and fast and the crack
of musketry and the roar of
artilery was terific. But Gen"
Bery sat up on his horse
aperantly as cool as a cucumber
and our oficers done them selves
credit. there was a charge
made upon our batery by
the Rebs" and our Reg" was
orderd in to protect it ther
was a oficer rode up and says
17th Me" you times has come.
do your duty when Gen Bery
shouts now boys do honor to yours state.

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society
(Coll. S-293)
MMN #5504

Date: Dec. 18, 1862
Description: Meshach P. Larry letter to his sister, Phebe

this was al the spech I heard
and we went in directly
in front of the Reb" baterys
and lay down upon the ground
and peperd to the best of
our ability we sent 2 regments
of Rebs skedadleing back
behind the hills into the woods
where they stayed and peperd
away at us at their leasure
they were perfectly safe for any
thing that we could do but
our big guns threw big shell
into the woods and I could
hear the trees crack, but
what damage they done I
could not tell we lay in this
position about untill monda
night when we was orderd to
pack up and we marched
back acrost the river and here
we are about 3 miles from
the battle field with the
impreion upon my mind that

this was al the spech I heard
and we went in directly
in front of the Reb" baterys.
and lay down upon the ground
and peperd to the best of
our ability. We sent 2 regments
of Rebs skedadleing back
behind the hills into the woods
where they stayed and peperd
away at us at their leasure
they were perfectly safe for any
thing that we could do but
our big guns threw big shell
into the woods and I could
hear the trees crack, but
what damage they done I
could not tell we lay in this
position about untill Monday
night when we was orderd to
pack up and we marched
back acrost the river and here
we are about 3 miles from
the battle field with the
impression upon my mind that

we got the worst of the fight
when we was taking our
position there was a shell
burst in our ranks taking
one leg of from J. E. Haskell
of North Gorham and wounding
4 or there 2 badly the others merely
bruised a little the whole reg lost
about 90 only 2 being killed
If you see any one that says they
wernt any afraid you may
know that it want me
but I want so frightened but
I obaid all the orders and will
say the rest done well none
turning from dander untill orderd
You write that Daniel says
that after I have ben in one
fight I shall not be so much
in a hurry what I meant by
hurying was use all speed
to get ready this has not
ben done I know it and I
know that twice as much could

we got the worst of the fight
when we was taking our
position there was a shell
burst in our ranks taking
one leg of from J. E. Haskell
of North Gorham and wounding
5 others 2 badly the others merely
bruised a little the whole reg lost
about 90 only 2 being killed
If you see any one that says they
wernt any afraid you may
know that it want me
but I want so frightened but
I obaid all the orders and will
say the rest done well none
turning from dander untill orderd
You write that Daniel says
that after I have ben in one
fight I shall not be so much
in a hurry what I meant by
hurying was use all speed
to get ready this has not
ben done I know it and I
know that twice as much could

if evry one done all they where
able to. and as long as this
war is conducted by men that
use more brains to benifit
themselves than they do for
the benifit of their country
just so long there will be
disaster I do not mean to
shy that any one man or
Genral could do any beter
but evry one contractor
and pety officers and men
all should do to accomplish
big results I am about out
of paper and our sutter
he is out it would be
very acceptable to have
some and also some stamps
but do not send many
at a time I will manage
to pay you for what you
send we little falls boys
are all here and it is rather cold
and I am rather blue.
can not tell what we have
ben about untill we get
the papers but if we have won
a victory do not show in defeat

I wrote to Mother on the battle field
MPL

If evry one done all they where
able to and as long as this
war is conducted by men that
use more brains to benifit
themselves than they do for
the benifit of their country
just so long there will be
disaster I do not mean to
say that any one man or
Genral could do any beter
but evry one contractors
and pety officers and men
all should do to accomplish
big results. I am about out
of paper and our sutter
he is out it would be
very acceptable to have
some and also some stamps
but do not send many
at a time I will manage
to pay you for what you
send we little falls boys
are all here and it is rather cold
and I am rather blue.
Can not tell what we have
ben about untill we get
the papers but if we have won
a victory do not show in defeat

[written up side]

MPL

I wrote to Mother on the battle field