



Stationed at Ridgeville
Maryland Sep. 13. 1862.

Dear Aunt;

I should have
wrote to before this but I suppose
Uncle had wrote at least three
times I have tryed to keep
a good lookout for him. In
the first place I suppose wish
to know about our health, we
have enjoyed good health
ever since we arrived in
Washington. We have been station
in the forts near Arlington
and have had quite a pleas
time. last Sunday morning
they ordered us to march
and we have been on the march
ever since we have been march
some 40 or 50 miles we stand it first
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MMN # 66037

Date: September 13, 1862

Description: Letter of Charles Garcelon to his Aunt Jane Waldron regarding
his ability to resist vice as well as his expectation of losing a limb in battle.

I cannot give you any idea of the
immense force the Government
has at its disposal, this week the
roads leading from Washington
have been filled with artillery
infantry and baggage wagons
some times for miles ^{of the road} ~~it would~~
~~be~~ filled three abreast, I have
seen Father several times since
I have been out here I have
not seen him since last
Sunday, I received a letter
from Maggie Haskell for
which I am very thankful
I should answer it before
this time but I have been
marched so I could not
find time, you must tell
Maggie that I am very well
and enjoying myself finely
tell her to write often
even if she does not receive
an answer for I would

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be happy to answer it if I
had time. She asked
me how I spent the
Sundays I answer we have
no Sundays out here we
either have to march or
or go on picket every Sunday.
I try to remember what
day it is and respect it
but I cannot help comparing
it with our Sundays at home.
You remember what I have
told you in regard to the vices
of the camp I feel as strong to
resist all temptations as I
did in Maine. I am confident
that a man can live a christian
life in camp — perhaps he can't
pray at stated times or attend
church on Sunday, but he
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to going into battle. I feel as though
I should stand my ground and I
feel as though it will be my luck
to loose either a leg or an arm.

I trust if we should be called into
battle that Father will be near
so as to dress our wounds if we
are so unfortunate as to receive
any I suppose Aunt Marston remains
with you, give her my love and tell
her I think of her often. When you
write tell me all about the children
tell me how Grace enjoyed her
ride to New York.

I must bid you good bye for
this time trusting we may
meet again in this world
if not in that better land
where we all have treasure

Yours truly

C A Garcelon

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