



Virginia May 11th /63
Camp near White Oak Church
Dear Wife
we have come back on to our
old camp ground where we stoped
last winter it is uncertain how
long we stop here we have been
here two days I received a letter
from you yesterday was very glad
to hear from you but you had not
received the sad news which
probly you have received before
this time I am all the once in the
company from Auburn I am
tired of war, lonesom, and homesick
it seems as if they mean to kill off
all of the three years men before
they send out any conscripts to
help us we have to fight against
superior numbers as we did last
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(Coll. S-166, Misc. Box 6/6)
MMN #35832

Date: May 11, 1863
Description: Marshall Phillips on Chancellorsville

disposal wont send out troops
anough to at least balance the
enemy that we have to fight
against there will be more
disertions than there ever has
been and not to blaim netter
we have been fighting under
command of Gen. Shedwick
he came very near being surround
and having to surrender his army
our corps took the city and the
hights we left but a small force
to hold them we advanced
about three miles that night
fighting our way leaving the
the roads open behind us
the rebels came in to our rear
retook the city and hights we
wer surrounded we took a back
rout and crossed the river in
the night we was attacted and
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Mo Glallen never would
been ketch'd in that fix
I think Mr Edmunds with the
rest of our prisnors will be excha
soon and sent to their regt
I pittty George Frenches Wife
when she hears the fate of George
but she is only one among
~~thouns~~ thousands of others who
meet with the same loss, I feel
very thankful to god that my life
has been spared thus far and hope
by the same power that I may yet
live to return to my dear Wife
and family but we all have to stand
our own chance they wer picked
from our ranks one after an other
untill out of the thirty three
guns that crossed the river in
our co only sixteen wer left to
cross back with we think but few
mosttily wounded

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Diana I dont know but
I do rong in writing to you
in this way as I am aware it will
give you disagreeable feelings but
I have always indevord to write as
near as I could as it was and have
felt it my duty to do so Diana
dont giv way to your feelings look
on the bright side hope for the best
it cant change any thing to worry
about me my health is as good as
common the sixteenth and twenty seventh
New York regts of our brigade have
served their time out ~~for~~ as two years
regt they started for home this mornig
they met with a heavy loss of
men four day before their time
was out
give my respects to all
from your husband
M. S. Phillips

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