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Monoxy Junction Oct 20/62

My Dear father and mother  
It is with the  
greatest pleasure that I sit  
down to answer a letter  
which I have just received  
from home. we have not had  
a mail before for a week a  
Sergant went to Washington  
to get it and he took it  
out of the office and carried  
it in his pocket for nearly  
a week, and to find out the  
truth of the matter he is in  
Washington get with our mail  
this letter that has just reached  
me has been out to the front  
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MMN #55498

Date: Oct. 20, 1862  
Description: John P. Sheahan from Monoxy Junction

were none of your small  
affairs for they made the  
air ring like sixty you have  
but little idea what a noise they  
do make, we gave the Rebs a  
good thrashing as you no doubt  
have heard by the papers long  
before this. I told you in my  
last that we were going to  
stay in Frederick all winter and  
so I have all reasons to believe  
we shall. we are out of the  
city three miles at a Junction  
of the rail road called Monoxo,  
we are encamped on a part  
of the camp ground where  
Jacksons men encamped when  
they were in Maryland I was  
on the place where some officer  
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rebel colonel and one to  
 "Stonewall Jackson" I also found  
 a short note which must have  
 been written by a general, it read  
 as follows. "The army will  
 probably fall back to-morrow--  
 be cautious" there was no  
 name signed to it so it  
 must have been written by some  
 one that had a good deal to do  
 with the rebel army, it is a  
 great sight to go all over their  
 camp ground to see the old clothes  
 that they left when they had  
 to leave in such a hurry they  
 would catch a hog kill and skin  
 him and then roast him in the  
 fire to eat I saw the hides of  
 more than twenty hogs and  
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in one place where they had  
roasted these muscles or as  
we most commonly call them  
fresh water clams, and this  
is the way that Jacksons army  
has to live and I call tell you  
more then this when Jackson knew  
he had got to retreat he marched  
his men into a corn field and told  
his men to take three days rations  
of green corn, this was told by  
a man who deserted and I have  
no reasons to doubt it, for there  
was large piles of cobs around  
their fires, and thus the rebels  
against the government have to live  
how they ever will get through the  
winter I do not know I think  
they cannot stand it much longer  
for their army is reduced and their  
supplies they have none so it is  
no use to talk about them —  
how they can live is beyond my  
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write soon John P Sheahan

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