



Strasburg Va
May 13/62

Dear Sister;

I wrote a few lines the day before we left Back Creek - we left at 6 A.M. and marched to Winchester - 35 miles rather a hard days march but I was not tired much. The road from Martinsburg to Winchester - 32 miles - was a turnpike and in good condition most of the way and lies through a beautiful country.

Saturday night we slept in the yard with our horses and some dead hogs - a good enough place for union soldiers. Orderly Hill said there was a hall in the city we could have but it was dirtier than the yard - The officers did not stay with us of course. A part of the 10th Maine staid in Winchester the same night we did - They came in by rail and their officers had them quartered in good buildings. By the way the 10th is one of the finest reg-

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Date: May 13, 1962
Description: Sgt. Horace White on remains of battle

-iments in the service — They challenge
the Nation to turn out a better drilled
regiment.

Winchester is quite a city very pleasant-
ly situated. — Every thing here sells
at enormous prices — I went into a
saloon with several of the boys and got
supper — fried ham and eggs, bread and but-
ter, and coffee without milk — no pies,
cake or fruit or any thing else, and paid
50 cents each. I bought some cakes to
take on the road, in the morning and
paid about double what such things could
be bought for in Maine.

We started from W. at 5 A.M. Sunday
and got here at 5 P.M. a distance of
19 miles. We passed by where the Winches-
ter battle was fought the last of March
but could not see the ground as it
was over a hill — could see some breast-
works on a hill and carcasses of horses
by the road which were killed. The road-
side from W. to Strasburg is strewn

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We started from W. at 9 A.M. Sunday
and got here at 5 P.M. a distance of
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but could not see the ground as it
was over a hill — could see some breast-
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by the road which were killed. The road-
side from W. to Strasburg is strewn

with dead horses in all stages of decay
from carcasses which died the day before
to bare skeletons and the perfume was
sometimes so strong that we were obliged
to march at a double quick in passing.
The country shows the effects of the war
very perceptibly — fences burned for camp-
wood and fields of grain trodden up.

The rebels made a stand here after
they were routed at Winchester and
some marks of the fight are perceptible
yet here.

We left here yesterday morning at 5-2
intending to go to Newmarket 32 miles
but when we had got about 6 miles
we received orders to remain at Stras-
-burg or Woodstock till farther orders.
We sent to Woodstock if there was forage
and provision there for us but there was
none so we returned.

Gen. Shields is retreating with his ~~div~~
division from Newmarket to Strasburg
— his object is not known — some think

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— his object is not known — some think

his object is to draw Jackson out
of the mountains so that Banks can
come up in his rear, and others say he
intends marching around to the other
side of the Mountains. Baggage waggons
have been passing since night before last
— 7 or 8 hundred have passed during that
time — it is quite a sight a string of army
waggons drawn by from 2 to 6 horses and
mules as far as one can see along the road.
Two Brigades of Shields division have passed
here this morning — the poor fellows look pretty
well worn — the sun is quite hot and the
roads are very dusty. Infantry have the ad-
vantage of Cavalry when in camp so as they
have no horse to care for but on a march
I would not change places with them.

Company B of our regiment have just
got here — they were ~~not~~ stationed above
us on the railroad. They make a laugh-
-able appearance — no worse than we did
though I presume — clothes, hair whis-
-kers and faces covered with dust. Company
H will be here to-day. The other two com-
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