Dear Miriam. I received your letter last night & Johnys to was glad that you was all well & that Father was so smart. I am well & hope this will find you all the same. Ruben. Dyer got to the Regt yesturday. I was up to the Regt last night & John was there. we stopt untill the mail come & that was past nine o clock. Charles nor John did not get any letters. the boys are all well & in good spirrits well we have had two moves last Tuesday we went up to camp Russell stopt untill yesturday than mooved back near Winchester the troops are a mile from the
town we are about a half mile from town, they think that we shall move again soon up the valley. we have been having good news the past week. I expect this move up the valley is for fear Lee might give them the slip & come this way, but as things looks now he will not get far with a very big army. David was lucky in getting a furlough when he did he properly got clear of some hard fighting, it is the opinion of most that every one the war is about to a close. It has the appearance of it any way. Johny wanted to know if I gave my horses any oats I give them a peck a piece a day & that is all that they do have now. we have not had any hay for them for most a week. I oiled my harnesses
this fournon & filled my keggs with water & each
Amb has two keggs that will
hold about two gallons apeice
it is to use in case we have
any sick or wounded aboard
[stain] fixed in the hind end
[stain] amb & a fasit in the end.
It is some easier when we go on
a march to drive a span of horss^ than it is to travil with a havy
folks
load. John says tell his ^ that
he is well & likes his chance
first rate, they have got three
mules that carryes their picks
shovels & axes on their backs. I am glad that you have hired
Joseph this summer. Johny
wrote that one of the oxen
had a sore on his leg try &
got some cast steel soap &
have Joseph take some warm
water & wash it every day
& after washing it out put some grease on it. Johny says they look first rate. Sarahs & billys tickets was not quite so lucky as yours & Johnys. tell Johny [stain] write again. I could read [stain] word of it first rate [stain] was an iron pin but [stain] clavis. I intended to have a piece plowed for a garden from where the garden was last year out to where the old lane ust to be. I told Silas to haul the dressing on the nole & it would not be in the way about plowing, that would have to much wildury for a garden beyond the old lane. it is quite pleasent to day but quite cool. all three of the Brigades are to geather now. I want you to direct my letters different when you write now