



8 o'clock A.M.  
 advance  
 On ^ Picket-duty-8 Miles from  
 Richmond, May 25th 1862

Dear Brother

I have a few leisure moments this morning, while waiting to be relieved, and will write a few lines that you may know I am still in the land of the living, We have advanced about 5 miles during the past two days & crossing the Chickahominy on the 23d in the morning, in light marching order, and meeting no resistance went back for our knapsacks or Bureaus. We marched 10 miles to get ahead [three] Yesterday the 24th we took up our line of march and our Brigade had quite a skirmish with the enemy driving them like sheep, our Regt was not engaged. Gen. Nagle, our Brigadier had his horse shot from under him. I do not know our loss nor the enemys. We never have

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by the North Yarmouth Historical Society.  
 Date: May 25, 1862  
 Description: Letter from Luther Lawrence from Richmond, Virginia regarding military life in the Civil War to his brother in Maine.

a battle on a ~~forced~~ forced march  
but it rains, and then the mud is  
horrible, however we are getting used to  
it now. We are ready for anything  
and nothing surprises us. It rained  
hard all day yesterday, but we did ~~not~~ not  
mind that, the mud is our worst trou-  
-le. Our living now is generally Hard bread  
and coffee & coffee & Hard Bread varied  
occasionally with a little Pork and salt or  
fresh Beef. We expect to learn to live  
without eating, if we go further south  
than Richmond. We have had enough  
such as it was however. There is a  
considerable amount of sickness in  
the Army at present. We left behind  
sick since we left Wash. 28 men & 2 com-  
officers (the Capt & 1st Lt.). Charles G. Cobb of  
Gray has died. I heard it incidentally  
but have had no official notice.

All the rest of the Gray boys are  
as well as can be expected. My health  
is good. I have not been sick yet, and  
don't want to be.

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Those who take good care of them-  
selves and are not too homesick  
keep their health. I have to act as  
Orderly, 1st Lt. & Capt. at times  
we having but one commissioned  
officer in the Co. with us. I have  
not seen or heard from the Dr. since  
we left Williamsburgh May 8th. I don't  
know whether he is here or in Maine.  
I have received ~~not~~ no letters ~~for~~  
for some time. I want you to  
write as often as you can.  
Hope you will have good luck  
housekeeping. My next letter will prob-  
ably be from Richmond. The opinion  
is that the enemy will not stand at  
Richmond. The question now is where  
will they stand in Dixie. Give my  
love to Lucinda and let her write to me  
if convenient and oblige  
Your aff Bro,  
Luther

Please send <sup>a few</sup> some stamps

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