



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 mar-
 ching 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 bid her to write me
if convenient and oblige
Your aff Bro,
Luther

Please send ^{a few} some stamps

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