

Perawill May the 24th 1864

Dear Friend

I take the Present time
to write you to inform you that I
am well at present hoping that thes lives
may find you all enjoying the same grace
(Further I tell you very freely how I got
along since I left home, I left home on the 10th
of march went to Lancaster and reported then
whe was sent of to Philadelphia there whe
was put in the Darps in camp Catwataer
whe was kept there for a few day and then
was sent of to Coldwore, the next day whe
was sent to harpersferry where whe stayet
for the night the next day whe was skipet
to martinsburg where whe gover the rest
of the boys there. whe was in camp for
verely ten weeks then whe got orders to
pack up and be retty to move whe startet
in the morning at 7 o'clock and marchet all
day till verely sundown reachet charlstown
a distivel of about 20 miles with our herey mapsack,

we put up our tents there the weather
was then very cold we was shivering in our
tents and could not get warm we stayed there
about ten days then we got orders to pack
up one morning before daylight it was at the
time that Dickment was taken and I think that
Grand thought that perhaps Lee tries to get up
through the Standdore rally there was about
10 or 15 thousand men with us they marched
very hard till 9 or 10 o'clock in the night
I and a great many others gave out and stayed
back and came up to the regiment of it stayed
for the night in the morning early we started
again and marched till about noon was then
at Winchester here I think the General got others
orders for we turned off to the right and went
about 5 miles to a place called Stevenson Station
where we went to camp, but Lee retreated
not been lost of and he would get to Lynchburg
perhaps some of us would see sleeping under
the soil of old Virginia broadsword has favored
us very much, we stayed at Stevenson Station
two weeks then we marched back about 12
miles to Summit Point where we have been

about a month, till yesterday we went
down to Berewill about 4 miles only our regiment
went the rest of our regiments stayed at Summit
Point we don't know what we shall
do here except there is a election here ~~at~~
tomorrow it is a State election for legislator
and I think that we are here to keep order
Perrawill is a nice place it is the country
side of some county I forget the name of
the county, it is a pity that Virginia
ever went out off the union some says
that Virginia is a wilderness but they are much
mistaken as far as I know there is nothing
but limestone land the best part of land
very heavy with lacus enough at the most
of places to put it all under fence there
is very heavy timber here more so than in
Pennsylvania except where the army lay it is
the most cut down and some places you
cant see a fence for miles and Darns barnet
down, there are some very nice houses here
but I did not see hardly a nice good Barn in
Virginia there is always where there is a good
house some never hits hold to it slaves.

There are about like some good old
lock pens in Pennsylvania, if the Sharadore
rally was in the hands of northern farmers
for about ten or fifteen years it would be
equal to Lancaster county. There are about
one hundred years behind the times some
ones from ten to fifteen hundred acres
of land ^{to be} and farmed it only here with there
slaves & one man that a farmer from Pennsylvania
would farm as much as two hundred then they
will from six hundred acres) enough of this
& sink that after the section when civil
law is restored that there is no use for us
to be here & sink that they will sent us
home soon for dont sink that there is every
oporse to keep us for they can get aroug
that are wiling to stay and that ant much
oporse at home fore some that have been out
since the war begon they dont want to work
any more I am in goot hopes to cure some
soon of the tobacco & be here is rather dettack
if I hat it here who could smok it in the
pipe) I must quit or you get turt reding

may the Lord bless us and sare us all
through Christ is my prayer John Gobs

our letters are detetted to
summit point Virginia by way of Barberferry