

Dec 30, 1862 1862
No 34



Mrs. Andrew Wilson,
Kantoville,
Conn.

Camp near Fairfax Station
Dec. 30th 1862

My dear wife -

I seize a few moments to inform you of our welfare - We have as yet not got anything since Friday - then I got yours of the 21st & the next morning when you were "washing hogs" - And vividly that brought Miller to mind & the trouble we had at another time trying to heat water in that steamer -

About mail we hear that five days of letters have gone down to Aquia Creek - They will fetch round right some time - Saturday I was on duty Officer of the Guard - About 9 o'clock P.M. we had orders to prepare 3 days rations & be ready to march next morning - I did not believe we should go - but we did - You know it has always been my luck to enjoy 24 hours picketing or guard duty before any of our long marches - As usual we were relieved at the last moment & fell in with the rest - The morning was beautiful but I could not realize it to be

Sunday & that you were at church -
Saturday afternoon we heard firing in the
direction of Dumfries - And our movement
was a reconnaissance in force to see what
the rebels were about - We went down past
the Cognac the same road as formerly.
& about 3 P.M. halted - Staid an hour or
more, then faced about a mile or two,
encamped for the night, waited till
yesterday at 2 P.M. & turned our steps for
Camp which was reached at 6 -
Grady was ahead of us & killed the
rebels a little - One genuine Cavalry
rebel was caught while we halted
Sunday - I cannot stop to write longer
because this is an extra mail closes
soon - I only knew a few minutes since
that one was to go - My health is as
good as ever - There is considerable di-
arrhea & some lung fever - The regt.
is greatly reduced in numbers -
Officers & men are thinning out -
Sunday was a very warm day

& made the soldiers sweat like drummers
Such weather you know suits me, but I
can see that it is not best for the greater
part

Yours hastily
A. Sprague