[On letterhead with engraving of Camp Seward, Va.]

Camp Seward Arlington Hights Va Oct 11th 1862

To Geo. Ellery Badgero

My Dear Son

I send you this picture of our camp not on account of its worth but that you may know that your Father thinks very often of you although I am a great many miles from you.

The Fort on the hill where the flag staff stands is called Fort Richardson. It is as far from where the tents are as it is from our house to the Depot and there is a deeper valley between the tents and the fort than there is between our house & the summit but the picture looks as though it was all level ground. I have marked the tent with an X that Georg Bailey and I sleep in. I want to see you very much and not only you but Francis and all the rest for I love all alike. We expect to go to a place called Fairfax Court house as soon as to morrow and whether we go or not I cannot tell how soon I shall be called upon the go into a battle and if I do I may never come out alive and if I do not you must remember that your Father died fighting for one of the best governments the sun ever shone upon. I have no more time to write now so good by for this time. Remember what I have told you. Obey your Mother and be kind to your Sisters and Brother. You must keep this untill I get home for I expect to come home I hope by next spring.

From your affectionate Father

John W. Badgero

I shall write to Laura in a few days JWB

[Courtery of Mrs. Burnell Marble, W. P. + P.: 1.

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