

At Warington Junction Va

July 27th 1863

Mr John R Babcock

Dear Sir

I received a letter from you last evening, directed to William Vincent, in care of myself, and as I saw it was in haste I took the responsibility to open it and peruse the contents. In it I see you wished me at the earliest opportunity to inform you of the fate of William, I do so but it causes me much sadness to inform you that he is now a prisoner in Richmond, and yet we may be very thankful that he was not killed as we at first supposed, for no truer or better man lives, a man who has sacrificed more upon the altar of his country, he was promoted to Sergeant at Gettysburgh for Bravery and good conduct, when it ought to have been a Lieutenant. I am informed by a Lieutenant who was a prisoner with him, four days and who escaped them that he was then well and in as good spirits as one could expect being in the same condition, and I have told you all I can learn of him.

you wished to know something of our
Regiment, I can say, that no Regiment
has ever done better fighting than they
did since the war commenced, and
Catevaugus may well be proud of such
men, for no true or Braver men ever
left their Homes, friends, Wives, Fathers
and Mothers and all they hold dear to
them, to sacrifice their lives and interests
to ^{help} maintain the integrity of that dear
old Flag which our Fathers left us,
and let us pray and hope that their
blood shall not be ~~spilled~~ ^{spilled} in vain,
but it pains us to know that these
men who would tear down this
proud monument of Liberty, ^{which} our
Washington half year for us a his
sympathies in the north, and the
shameful piece of business they have
~~just been transacting in New York city~~
is doing us more ^{towards discouraging our Army} hurt, than any
thing these Rebels are doing, and they
will be remembered, if not by you of
the north, they will certainly be
remembered by us in the army, they
will be remembered by us as the most
dangerous enemy we have to
contend with, we respect the open
outspoken Rebels of the south much

more, for they tell us what we can
depend upon. But these copperheads are
like snakes in the grass, they talk
fair at your face - but turn and
sting you in the back as soon as
you leave them. If justice was done,
a nation of hump ^{and that to} ~~roaf~~ would be
death ~~out~~ to them, ~~with~~ ~~out~~ ~~any~~ ~~more~~
but you must excuse me I have
wandered if very far from what I
commenced to tell you of our Regiment
they went into the battle with nearly
300. men and only came out with
about six ~~ten~~, about forty of them are
wounded about twenty in killed, and
and the rest of the missing are prisoners
- but it happened that we had about
50 on extra duty so that we saved
and we now in all only draw
patents for ~~Our Hundred~~ and Twenty one
men, that is counting every man, we
have whatever bearing arms or not.
We have now been marching nearly
every day since the 11th of June
when we left Stafford Va., we have
never then been to Gettysburg Pa, and
are now about 30 miles from Stafford,
whence we started so you can see
that we have been of late much

Very busy" you can tell our Folks
if you see any of them that I am
well. I sent a letter to Father last
night but it may not reach him,
what is left of the ^{is nearly} ~~is nearly~~
^{well} ~~well~~ and in good cheer, we are to
be filled up again with conscripts,
~~"We shall march again tomorrow I~~
think towards Culpiper ~~Co.~~ hoping this
will find you safe I remain as
ever your

Obdiant Servant

Newton A. Chaffee.