

Camp near Fairfax

Oct 29 1862

Dear Parents

We Recd your letter by yesterdays mail (Fathers) and was glad to hear from you and that you was all as well as you were. yours found us enjoying very good health. We have Broke Camp to day and move about 1 ½ miles towards Centreville. the object is to get with the rest of the Brigade. we are Brigaded with the 73d & 27<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania and 29<sup>th</sup> NY we are in Sigels 11<sup>th</sup> army Corps second Division, first Brigade, the army of the Potomac. this is a very pleasant Country here a little Hilly but not mountainous it is about as warm here in the Daytime as it is there the first of sept but very Cool nights. the Country here is Covered with the tents of Soldiers, as far as you Can see Wherever you go I do not like this Soldiering laying here from week to week and making no advance. I for one would like to keep a marching every day and then we Could see that we had accomplished something But I do not think that we shall advance any farther this winter they have put us with these old Regts which all three only number about the same as we do. Arthur [Hotchkiss] was out on Pickett for the last twenty four hours with 36 men he has just Came in as we are ready to march he likes it very much. the Boys all think every thing of him and will do anything for him no matter what they do not like the Captain [Lewis D. Warner] near as well, and the 2d Lieut [Warren Onan] they all hate the ground that he walks on he has quite an overbearing way with him and does not try to do anything for the Comfort of the Company, he is all self nobody as good as he, never associates any with the men Cross in his manner not at all social. I cannot think of any thing more to write at present write as often as you Can and I will I Recd a letter from home this morning they are all well give my Respects to all enquiring friends Tell Dode if you see him I will write to him in a few Days my love to you and ma ma and ada no more at present

From Your Son

E H Hotchkiss

Mt Pleasant Hospt  
Washington, D.C. Feb 13<sup>th</sup>/63

Dear Mother

It has been a long time since I heard from you and I thought I would write a few lines But it has been so long since I wrote that I am almost ashamed to write But I wanted to hear from Home and I did not know of any one that would answer as quick as you. my health is very poor and has been for three months I have had the Rheumatism in my Back very Bad I am some better than when I came here But I Do not think that I shall ever be able to Do much Duty in the field again laying on the Ground and exposures such as a soldier has to endure will make me worse again if I do go Back in the field I Recd a letter from arthur last Saturday he wrote that He was well and that the Regt had been paid off and all the Boys felt better it is the first time that they have been paid since we left Home I have not got mine yet I sent arthur an order to Draw mine but whether he Did I Do note know if he did not I shall have to wait until next pay day it is a very pleasant place here at the Hospt the Hospt is about two miles from the City of Washington it is a very Dirty City I have not seen a Handsome street in it still there may be we have hard storms here now and then But it is very pleasant here to Day there is nothing new here of importance that I can write give my Respects to all Enquiring friends I hope that this war will end some time so that we Can get to our homes and families once more my love to you and all the rest write and tell me what Pa thinks of this Rebellion and if he thinks there is any prospects of peace we Cannot get any news more than once a week pls answer by Return mail write all the news Direct your letter to

Mt Pleasant Hospt Washington, D.C. Tent 5

From Your Son

E H Hotchkiss

tell ada I should like to hear a word from Her now and then is she feels inclined to write

Mt Pleasant Hospt

Washington, D.C. March 28<sup>th</sup> 63

Dear Mother

I thought I would drop you a few lines to let you know how I get along. I am some better than when I last wrote I have been quite sick since arthur was when he went home on furlough he Called to see me I went a part of the way with him from the Hospt to the city and I was so lame for four days that I could not walk across the tent But I have got smart again yesterday I got a chance to ride down to the city so I went Down I wanted to send some money home and I went down to Express it I sent \$40.00 home and so I dropped into a daguerrian gallery and I thought perhaps you might like my picture so I will Enclose it in this and if you Receive this answer it and let me know I am getting almost discouraged a trying to get Home they are a going to Clean out all the Hospts around Washington & Alexandria and those that are able to go to their Regts will be sent there and those that are not will be sent to their respective States and perhaps I may be sent to New York and may Be to the Regt I cannot tell which But I hope to New York now Mother Do write more often and write all the news If you knew How lonesome I am here away from Home and amongst strangers I think you would write more often there is nothing new here of importance give my love to ad and all the rest tell father I would like to hear from him as often as convenient as it is getting late I must Draw to a close so good bye for the present

From Your aff Son

E H Hotchkiss

To His Parents