

[On "United States Sanitary Commission" stationery]

Camp near Alexandria
May 20th 65

Dear Sister

You may perceive that each letter is dated nearer home. We reached here yesterday evening and today received your greiving letter of the 23d ult. I am in hopes that you would settle that corner business before I should get home, and I am in hopes that we shall be soon hurrying home hastily. We took up the line of march through Manchester and Richmond, passing by Libby and Castle thunder, the city hall, capitol and the Washington monument in morning Had not Gen Sherman came to Richmond Gen Halleck would have exacted a review, but Sherman I guess thinks he is the biggest. however we marched in parade through the two cities and while going through Manchester we found a brigade of the 24 corps drawn up in line on one side of the street and dressed as if for a holiday while we were dressed for work. of course we knew we could not come up to them at such odds in style and our boys made much amusement at their expense We found some very fine country north of the Chickahominy. We passed through Ashland, but ____ had ____ since '63. from there we went to Spottsylvania, and over the battle ground. oh! it is a terrible sight, then to the left of the celebrated Wilderness to Chanclorsville but I had no desire to visit the old place of our fight. We crossed the Rappahannock at United States ford, then to the Orange and Alexandria rail-road, near Catlett station, crossed the road at Farifax station Well we thought when we were in Virginia that great was the destroying power of War, but Virginia has suffered nothing like South Carolina.

My health is quite good We understand that Andrew is all right, and Job Dawley of our Co. we understand was shot, and he was one of the best boys in the regiment I suppose that we will have to march in a review in Washington You will get the particulars from the "special correspondents" may the 20th do well.

Yours

D S Jones