

Camp Soldiers Home
Sept 10th 1861

Dear Mother

I take my pen in hand to let you know how we are all the boys are well and hope you are all the same how is liz and Eva we are in camp 3 miles from Washington guarding the soldiers home where Uncle Abe lives he goes by every day to the city and we have to salute him with present arms we left camp curtin on Saturday they 6 of Sept. and went through Baltimore we stoped in Bal 2 hours and then went through to Washington and got there at 5 oclock we had orders to leave to go to a fort about $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles and was bout $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of there and had orders to go back for Jackson was in sight so we had to turn and go back to Washington for the night next morning we went 3 miles from the City and stoped for the day we thought but at 6 we had to march to where we are 3 miles from the other camp and 3 from the city the night after we left Baltimore the wire was cuty and some of the track was torn up we took a spy yesterday he was passed through to see the president and went on the top of the soldiers home took out his spy glays and was looking at our forts and went to go out and was stoped he could not give account of himself but said he was in a hurry to get his letters mailed so they walked him to the city to be tried there was but to companys ordered out with us this last time but the first the Regiment Capt Fays and Rysingers Com. was ordered to the city to gard. When the relief came there was but one man at his post and he was asleep so you can tell what a company. he fay has got We call them the wild cat rangers we take the prase of being the best company in the Reg. there was 17 Rebels captured half a mile from here last and the night we left the cap there was 9 taken the Soldiers Home is the nicest place I ever seen Jackson is in Maryland, McClelland and Pope are after him the way the artillery went by below us was a cusion to old folks so the gard said I stood gard Sunday night 2 ours on and 4 off we will stay here We think a good while you can draw the money and have you got the valiece C. Clover will pay half of the charge we herd a fight going on Monday Morn above us the Cannons are firing now. I must bring my letter to a close. Direct your letter to Washington D.C. 150 Reg. P.V. Volentears in care of Cap. Derrixson