

11/1/862

& some bread & milk - a most excellent dish. The people were very pleasant to all the soldiers, & were evidently, strongly Union in their sympathies. - They had two sons, who had been in Md. (until our army had crossed the river into Va.) so as to avoid the rebel conscription.

Bread, apples, butter, chickens, & everything in the Prussian line, is in great demand, wherever the Army goes, & the people sell ~~all~~ <sup>as</sup> they can spare, to the soldiers. - This morning, we were informed that our Division had <sup>orders to</sup> march at 9 A.M. but as our Reg. was to march in rear of the whole Division - behind the wagon train, we did not get started before 11 o'c.

The day has been very fine, a little warm in the middle of the day, & the roads are in excellent condition. - We have come today - about 12 miles, from our last camp, through Waterford (where Burnside's Headquarters are, & where his Corps was encamped) & Harmony Grove, - both rather pleasant villages, of course containing some very shabby houses, as all Va. villages do, but having also some nice residences. We are now

within half a mile of Purcellville, which is  
3 miles from Harney Grove. - The country thro'  
which we have come, since leaving the Potomac, <sup>(18 miles)</sup>  
is quite rolling - & is an excellent farming  
country. - Many of the people brought over to  
the soldiers, at the roadside. - We are now  
within about 7 miles of the rebels, at Snicker's  
Gap, where we have heard some heavy can-  
onading today. Gen Pleasanton's Cavalry is  
in the advance; no other troops are ahead  
of us. We know not how soon we may have  
a fight. No doubt a decisive battle will be fought  
within a few days. - I hope so, & that the  
rebel army may be utterly defeated, that  
we may take Richmond, & break the back-  
bone of the Rebellion in a short time, when  
when the grand consummation of our hopes  
is fully attained, how glad we all will be,  
to return to our homes, to enjoy for the re-  
mainder of our lives the fruits of the tremen-  
dous sacrifices, that have been made for the  
preservation of our Govt. - I rec'd a good  
letter, of some length, from Father today (Sunday)

from your  
affectionately from your  
mother

There has been very sharp cannonading ahead of  
us, again today, but it has now ceased.

I am very well now, & do not intend to  
return home, until the war is over, unless I am sick  
again, or disabled. Love to Mr. & Mrs. Yates & Mary.  
Write immediately, it is a good while since we have heard