

1-22-1862

Arthur McKinstry to Uncle

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Camp Wood Jan 22nd 1862

Dear Uncle,

At the risk of being thought a bore I will send yet another private letter to your address. I have drafted a course how in copying for you a map which I have constructed but which I have not had either the time or tools to turn into a sketch. Such as it is however it defines our position much better than anything I have yet seen. From Rock Pt A. down to Aquia Creek the map is very correct and that embodies all the strong points of the vicinity. As regards Chestnut Head I believe that I also have that pretty exactly, but the view of Mattawoman Creek is not commanded by any eminence in our vicinity. As however I entered it from the Potomac on my voyage down, and recollect its bearings from Chestnut Head; I have a pretty fair idea of its position. Camp Baker, whose position I have laid down, was our last stopping place. The camp ground occupied by the 11th Mass Regt. is the spot where Rouse, Daily, and O'Donahue were injured by that fatal shell explosion. Co. B. of Jamestown has a very large amount of sickness just now and more than forty of its men are unfit for duty. In fact the able men do guard duty nearly twice as often as our own. I have to go on guard about twice - no once - in seven days. This is not hard at all, but when

prosper. I used to enjoy myself very much when visiting at
your home because everything was so easy and pleasant there.
I think you have about as comfortable and neat a home as I
ever entered. Our Pioneer Debating Club is a tip top thing and is
altogether ahead of the Young Men's Association, even in its palmy
days. Indeed we have several of the ablest debaters that ever
were members of that society. It is one of my chief sources of enjoy-
ment. Well it is nearly time to retire and in a few minutes we
will be in confusion. Remember me affectionately to Aunt Ellen
and little Grace and let me hear from you often.
Your aff. nephew

Arthur

1/2 7
2/6 21