

June 30. 1863

Dear friends 11th Regt - N J Vol
Birnbeck. Janeytown Maryland June 30th 1863

My dear Ellen & family

After long hard and fatiguing March
we arrived at this place last evening - We are now within five
Miles of Penna-line - heading towards Gettysburg - or rather
towards Yorktown - I was at - Burkittsville at breakfast just
from thence we marched to Middletown - from thence to Frederick City
from there to this place passing through a great many little
towns and a most magnificent country under a high
state of cultivation - A description of this March and its vicinity
County I must reserve for a another time - But our Army
is certain the inhabitants are very sogal The scene with
flags waving - and shown every demonstration of joy at their
approach - at the posts of the roads - along the roadsides
and in the villages - they are collected to see the Army - They are
this day more joyful than the people in some parts of the
North

I received several letters last evening from home - They
were truly welcome letters - Dear wife wait and ask me
about those flags - Why dont you take the responsibility and
take them at once - Why Ellen if the world cost ^{to} twice
as much as it does take them - I know you want them and

You shall have them of their usual cost four tons as
much - you and Sarah take the ~~freight~~ - get them made
up - and be ready for the coming winter - I would not
with any consideration - you would decline getting them
got them by all means - Never send for any thing and
then not take the article sent for - But - you have long
wanted them - and I was anxious that you should have
them you have the article now - and keep them. Now
on no consideration decline - or I will be displeased - so that
is settled -

I don't know what is before us - But we suppose
we will have some fighting to do - If we get a
little rest we will be ready for it - We have gone through about
150 miles or more have performed the longest and hardest
Marches - of the war - as a general thing the troops are in good
spirits - and in good health - This country is healthy - good
water pure air - very different from Virginia - We seem
to breath a northern atmosphere - and the men seem to
be perfectly delighted -

Love to all the family & friends
Your affectionate Husband Father and mother
Robert