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Letter to Margaret E. Cahill, 1864 August 3

Thomas W. Cahill

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Mrs J. N. Cahill
No 22 1/2 Franklin St
New Haven
Conn.



Head Qrs 2nd Div 19th A.C. Washington D.C.
August 3rd 1864

My Dear Wife

Here we are safe and sound on the Hill
within five miles of Washington. on the Line of Forts
around the City. We have knocked about for
very lively since we left home in the way of right
movements, ever since we landed at Bermuda
Headlands. We landed in Washington on the after-
noon of the 1st and that night we took
a Train for Frederick City. We went to sleep as
soon as we could and just before daylight
were turned out and marched here to meet
the Enemy. we found no Enemy and got a good
night's sleep by mistake I suppose. I have made up
my mind that if we find the Enemy it will be by
mistake also. It is the Enemy I think as I do not
pretty well scared. and he will keep us hopping about
at his fancy but the chances are that he will not get us into the
fight. I expect however that we may move to Frederick
City to night or to morrow. That being the Head-
quarters of the Corps for the present. I think you had better dis-
card your letters 1st Div 2nd Div 19th A.C. Washington D.C.

until you hear from me again we are all well
so far Except Lieut Kennedy whom we left
in Washington with a bad leg. he is in charge
of a small party left with the baggage. I have
succeeded for so far in bringing up my bed
valise and saddle Bag. the mattress is a great
comfort to me and I have sent of two shirts and
a pair of socks to be washed to day so I can man-
age very well so far as clothes are concerned
but I do not know what to do for a horse if we
are obliged to march far. but I will not buy
one if I can help it. for the short time I expect
to serve I being just 90 days. as things look
now although I am some what afraid they
may try to hang on to me. The weather is very
fine here now. and we have a fine air on the top
of these Hills. Just Back of our Camp is a
Country house of the Georgetown College
some of the Seminary students came to ask me last
night if we expected to fight here. I assured
them we were not the fighting kind. which seemed
to relieve them immensely. Give my respects to Father Hunt
my love to Ellen and kiss the Babies as usu-
al
Your Loving husband
Thos. Calver