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Letter to Margaret E. Cahill, 1864 August 30

Thomas W. Cahill

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Head D^s 9th Conn Vols in
the field on the Winchester Turnpike
near Charleston. Va. August 30th 1864

My Dear Wife

I sent you a half sheet this AM
by a sutler going to Harpers Ferry distant about
18 miles. And am just notified a mail mess-
enger will leave in two hours so that the other M^s
I carry will send you this we are all well and in
good spirits so far, and have had a little fighting
and a little prospect immediately as you
could desire. The Enemy apparently foiled in his
attempts to cross the Potomac in this vicinity commen-
ced falling back day before yesterday, and yester-
day we advanced from our fortification on the river
the old Halbtown to the lines which we threw up a
week ago at this place and since our arrival
have been busy at strengthening them. Though
for what reason except to keep us busy I do not
know, I do not think the Enemy has any notion of attack-
ing us and we will not leave our works to attack
him unless on a sure thing. If he really retreats
we may possibly follow him somewhat further
though not much. It may be he is called for to Petersburg and

by Grants success on the Indian Road. if so we may follow
him far enough to be sure he is out of the bulley when we too
return our steps. The horse I bought in Washington is doing well
improving rapidly. I picked up another old cripple on
whom I mean to pack a tent and some clothes and
food so I get along nicely. The weather is delightful
and Roads good and so far horse feed plenty. This is
a delightful country full of fine farms and fresh
meat plenty. The men and Officers are in good health
we get Baltimore papers every day but have rec-
d no mail but once since we left Annapolis town.

To morrow is Muster day but the Officers have brought
no Balls with them so I do not see how we can Muster
for pay. I am sorry for this as it will delay the mens pay
though I do not know what they could do with it if they
had it here. Capt & Green joined day before yesterday
with all the men from N. Orleans among them Char. Jam-
es Condon who wrote you about his check. you may
as well enclose it in a letter to me, and I will
give it to him. The next letter I would wish to letter
Hart as I would this but was not sure you had heard
any from me. I had to borrow this sheet as I had no paper
with me. Kiss the boys as usual My love to Ellen. your loving husband
Thos. Calver