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Letter to Margaret E. Cahill, 1864 August 30

Thomas W. Cahill

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W^{no} 7 Hill

227 Franklin St
New Haven
Conn



Head Quarters 9th Conn Regt in the
field near Charlestown Va
August 30th 1864

My Dear Wife

I dropped a short note to
you yesterday by an Ambulance Driver who
was returning to Harpers Ferry, and I write this
expecting to send it by a sutler going to
some place for supplies. We are now be-
hind the same works. Which we threw
up on the night of the 21st of Aug. having
advanced without any fighting from
our Entrenchments on Halltown Heights.
Yesterday a Division of Cavalry in
our front at a place called Smithville
had a sharp Engagement with the En-
emy. Who is thought to be desiring up
the Valley. he has apparently been Defeat-
ed in his attempt to cross the River
or he may be recalled to Petersburg. I thin-
k our force is one of Observation and to
keep them from dividing up. Evidently
our Commanders instructions are to give bat-
tle only under the most advantageous

circumstances, so that we are likely to have as little fighting as even you could desire. We are constantly at work entrenching so if they come at us we must be behind breast works all are well and in good spirits. The Ju Lung Senior Surgeon has the Medical Charge of the Brigade the Lieut Col has gone to Washington with spare baggage and gun with him for a horse. Capt J. Brien joined us yesterday with the Battalion of the New Orleans Men. I have picked up another old horse for packing my Rations and tent on so I carry all I need with me the horse I bought in Washington is turning out finely getting as fat as a seal. I am getting along nicely but we have little or no paper though the newspapers come through regularly the accounts in the Baltimore American are very correct of our movements. My respects to Father & Mother as soon as I can get paper and Captain of Boats through will write him my love to all. Yours & C. C. C.