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Camp of the 11 Reg't Mass

Vol a near Petersburg

V.A Oct. 31, 1864

Dear wife

I sit down to ans. your note of the 17 which gave me great pleasure of hering from you and the children being in good health as the departure of this leaves me in at present thanks be to God for his blessing to us all.

I main to let you now that I do not want for any clothing at present but as swoon as we get in to winters quarters I will have you send my overcoat on to me and 2 shirts

and 2 pair of stockings. The weather is very fine here at present and also I do think we won't have much comfort this winter fr we are to close to the enemy to have a good time the same as the winter past. I also main to let you now that there is not one day passes over us but that there is less than 25 to 40 a day wound or kild in their (huts?) from bullets or shot or shell for the distance apart is about 600 yard apart so it requires a man to be very careful of himself. I have not much to (translate?) to you at present but we are sure of a victory whenever we mak an atack.

I have ans. Mary letter the day I got it and I feel contented in mind as long as their health dose keep good and I hope it will continue so and in regard of Marthur writing she will beat Mary in less that 3 months for she makes her letters more upright and more accurate in size. And Margrit I am sorry that I can not fulfil my promise to her for her Merit but tell her that I will make it all right in short. Give Johnny my love and tell him to take good care of his new close for there is a great many little boys out here that would like to have them.

I also maks remarks to you, but I suppose it is not necessity, to look sharp and save all the money you can for it will be a good thing for you and the children some time or other. And I hope that you have no straglers around you now for the are of no benefit

(Continued)

except to give the childrn bad (M----?) Tell Patt Navin that he can not get to this Reg't
excep he listed for it, and if he is a (battery?) it is the best place for him.

Give my love to all the children and all enquiring frends.

Your truly husband

Michael Lalley

Good night