

No 5

June 5th

Camp near Grove Church Va

Dear Parents & Sister

Well we have settled down again for awhile & think of stopping a spell if we are not disturbed by the Rebs. We have moved back from where I wrote you last, to, within a mile of Grove Church. There is only our Brigade here & it seems lonesome enough for we cannot go outside of the Brigade lines anyway We are 23 miles from our old Camp. The other 2 Brigades of our Div are around here somewhere within a dozen miles each way. Furloughs are played out entirely now for awhile on account of the inspector saying we were not quite up to the standard of discipline We are cut off from all indulgences; but we cannot see

that we are cut off from much for all the indulgences we have had was 5 days furloughs & who in the devil would worry much for losing them. Probably we shall have the restriction removed in a week or so We are fixing up here as though we calculated to stop here the rest of our 3 years. Flag staffs put up & wooden buildings put up, some of them were taken down & brought from Falmouth Our Brigade Commissary says we shall stop here until the middle of Sept if we are not drove out We are about 40 miles from Washington, straight line through Bull Run & Manassas & it is my opinion there is where the next big fight will come off & if it is we will whip H-II

out of them

To-day is the 1st day we have had any mail but the line is established ^now so we will have it regular now

Hooker is a h-ll of a man to mention along with McClellan No one thinks Hooker knows anything now & McClellan did have the Credit of knowing something He knows just enough now to keep still & wait for the Government to beg of him to save the Army if he can do it. Hooker will run it into the ground yet & then some one will have to take hold that knows something, besides drinking whiskey. The 9 months men have done as much as I supposed they would. It takes 9 months or more to get a soldier disciplined so he will stand fire. The first impulse of a man when he is fired at is to run unless

he is a d-d fool. Some men may be reckless enough so as not to care whether they are hit or not, but I dont believe there ever was a man That would face a shower of shot & shell & bullets from mere Bravery If there was no afterpart no consequences to fear in the event of their leaving I believe officers & men would be scarce sometimes. Too bad about Dickey's dying that squirrel hold on well dont he

We have not been paid off yet but expect to be soon Ive not had any No 2 letter & only one paper with -'bacca We have plenty to do in Guard duty Camp, Provost, Picket, Prisoner, & Recruits from some of the NYork Regts that have

gone home & these Recruits wanted
to go too but the Government didn't
see it so; so they rebelled & it takes
about a hundred from the [day]
Brigade every day to guard them
Yours Truly
IE Green