

Willard's Hotel

Washington July 23. 1861

Dear Mary Ann

Bro D. Torrey, John Kendall  
Perry & My self, went to  
Alexandry Saturday eve. from  
thence we advanced Sunday  
with the Dr Kalb Reg and  
a detachment of 35 of the  
32<sup>nd</sup> N.Y. Vol, who were left  
in Camp where regiment  
marched a few days before.

We went by RR to Fairfax  
Station, thence we moved on  
in advance of the Dr. K. Reg  
with the 32<sup>nd</sup> boys, and re-  
ached the battle field just  
in time to see, that division  
of our Army make its panic  
stricken retreat.

We advanced (after soldiers

left us on their retreat)  
a few miles further on, to  
where we found some of  
our Army rallying & forming.  
Now it was 8 P.M. and our  
party got separated, I went  
to looking them up, first  
found Mr. Torrey, next  
found Perry, and finally  
found Kendall, and we  
retreated down the road toward  
H. Court Ho with the retreating  
stragglers & baggage of army about  
one mile. Then we turned  
to the right across fields half  
a mile, got supper to an  
Incession farm house. Went  
to bed about 10 P.M. slept  
well till one A.M. next  
day morning when Kendall  
(who could not sleep) awake  
me, and whispered to me that  
he heard a noise about the

house that made him  
think we were betrayed  
by our host and would be  
surrounded & captured. We  
dressed, called up the servant  
paid our bill \$2, to him  
& left, on our march  
back to Alexandria.

By daylight it began to  
rain, we reached Alexan-  
dria About 2 P.M. in a  
drizzling rain after a  
steady march of 25 miles,  
wet, sore, and tired, could  
not pass the lines at Alex-  
and had to stay there till  
this A.M. when we got  
a pass to cross the lines,  
and walked to Wash 10  
miles, - We have some  
trofiers. Perry thinks  
he has seen enough of  
War,

I think he will start for  
home in day or two -

I shall not remain here  
a great while before I  
leave for home -

The 32 Reg has got back  
to Camp all well none  
killed or wounded -

I think the Itasca boys  
have safe offices and wont  
require any hospital stores

Yours Affectionately

E. Cornell

Mary Ann