



V.O.

Camp near ^{and} Pالمouth
Wednesday May 20th 1863

fr. Barger

My old friend You probably think I have forgotten You but I would of written long before this but I cant get things in this Camp as we could in our old one) but now as to the nuse my Helth is good hoping these few lines will find You all in good Helth John I sea that the nuse has been up their that Richmond was taken but we are no near than we was six months ago only about 15,000 men less than we had six months ago So You can see how our Army is going I dont think if their is another movement made as the last one was that the Army of the Potmack will ever be good for any thing John I sea the papers are prassing up Hooker very much as in his good success

in the last movement - and that the
 Army was as willing to move now as
 they were three months ago but all
 them that believe it let them come down
 and see the feelings of the Army
 and then he can tell John I suppose that
 the majority of the people are down
 on McClellan that is up their but it
 makes no difference with the Army of the
 Potomack if the hole north were down on
 him as long as they stay up their
 they will think so but what is the reason
 reason that they dont let little Mack
 resign his Command but no they say
 that he will soon be needed again
 and not untill he is in Command of
 the Army of the Potomack will they
 ever fight with a will that they did once
 he is the man that organized the Army
 and he is the man we look to as being
 worthy of Commanding this Army John if
 you havent any Confidence in a man

why you wouldnt trust him with
 money and still less with your life
 not that we think our generals are traitors
 but we dont think they are smart enough
 M^r. Cullan was slow but much shrewder
 and if he had to fight against best
 works he would build best work so
 his men would have some chance
 for their lives but just look at the
 best works and forts that I now
 can see not more than a half a
 mile from where I now am waiting
 and then think of facing them and
 have grape and canister moving down your
 rank by dozens and you have no chance
 to see or kill one of your enemy
 whilst so many of your comrades are biting
 the dust and then after almost reaching
 their works have to fall back with ~~little~~
^{duddy} the loss less duble the loss why the enemy
 never exposed even more than the mouth
 of their cannons and such as them we have ^{was in}
 to face but never whilst little mark