

Annapolis, Maryland,
Thursday, Sept 29, 1864.

Dear Mother, - I am here in the Capital of Maryland, without a dollar, or a coat to my back. I am in hospital. I came here last Monday morning on the Flag of Three Stars, "New York," from Fort Mifflin. I have been spending the Summer down South. As Willard Jackson says, they are a very generous, hospitable folks down there, and will keep a man over night for nothing. They kept me from the 5th of May to the 24th of Sept., and never charged me a cent for it. I had three meals a day and a bed, most of the time, and slaves to wait on me. They wouldn't let me eat all I wanted, for fear I should eat so much that I should make myself sick. My health was delicate, and it wasn't best to overload my stomach. They had a man to keep folks from disturbing me, and see that I didn't wander off and get lost.

In the forepart of July, I sent you a letter by flag of Three Stars. Did you get it? If not, I will tell you how I came to be boarding on Jeff Davis. At the battle of the Wilderness I was twice wounded, and ~~was~~ disabled, and therefore could not help being taken prisoner. I lay on the battle-field about twenty hours after I was shot. I lay on the ground in the Wilderness thirty days. I was then carried to a prison hospital in the city of Lynchburg. Stayed there till Sept 13th. Was then sent to the Provost prison, and stayed two days. Was then transferred to Richmond; stayed there eight days, and on the 24th of Sept. was released on my parole and shipped down the river. I spent one hundred and fifty dollars for food while I was in the Confederacy, besides eating all the rations I could get. We live well here. I am now as fleshy and portly as John Bull, and will weigh about 155 they say. My wounds are not fully healed, but I am able to walk about a little.

Annapolis, Md.,
Sunday, Oct. 2.

I need a temporary appointment as Clerk here yesterday, and therefore may stay long enough to get a letter from you.

Did the papers report me wounded or missing after the battle of the Wilderness? What has Quarsey been doing with my papers and Magazine?

If anybody will send me five dollars, send it to me within twelve hours after you get this. Write me just the minute you receive this, if at all.

I am anxious to hear from you. - If any papers or letters come to Winch, for me keep them till you hear from me again.

I will send you on this an envelope to put your letter in.

U. S. Christian Commission.

Oct 8 / 64

Mrs. Sherman Cook,

Winchester, N. H.

