

Rochester Thursday Oct 15 '63

My Dear Son

I see by the afternoon papers that your Corps was engaged yesterday with the enemy at Bristoe Station and that you held your ground. I trust that you escaped harm. I am expecting to hear that today has been another day of battle. May the Lord preserve you and uphold our cause!

Dreadful as it is the bloody strife they have forced us to this terrible issue and only by the wages of battle and that carried out to a victorious close can we get peace or save our country.

Providence has placed you in the van, the post of honor as of danger.

I doubt not you will act a mans part and I pray God you may return home safe to share in the honor and reward of "Duty nobly done".

Affectionately
Your Father, S.D. Porter.