

Transcribed by Terry Crooks.

The original letter is in the *Porter Family Papers*, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Rochester Libraries.

April 29th [1863]  
9 P.M.

Dear Mary

Your last letter reached me this afternoon while we were on the march and now that we have settled for the night I will write a few lines in reply. Conforming to orders we left camp yesterday and marched a few miles up the river, there very unaccountably we were halted and stacked arms. Details were sent out and worked at, first one thing and then another. To day we all went out on the roads completing them to the river where the Rebel pickets were in plain sight. Just as this work was completed off we were bundled and after marching 5 or 6 miles here we find ourselves camped in a large field about half a mile back from the river 8 or 10 thousand strong. I find marching very easy & shall be able to stand it better even than I did the Maryland campaign<sup>1</sup>. I write under all the disadvantages in the world and you must excuse brevity. My money is all safe, sent \$200. The letter whose non-arrival I mentioned in my last to Farley has come. Please return thanks for it. Tell Seward that I have written to him three times & am very much obliged for his gift.<sup>2</sup>

Sam

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Notes:

<sup>1</sup> The march, started on the 28<sup>th</sup> was the initial movement of the Second Corps to the area NW of Falmouth and the beginning of its part in the Union turning movement which opened the Chancellorsville Campaign. See the letters of early May for more detail.

<sup>2</sup> Mary Elizabeth Porter was his older sister.

Seward Fobes Gould was the son of General Jacob Gould of Rochester also a Frat brother of Porter.