

New Camp Hospital
Fortress Monroe
Oct. 2nd/64

My Dear Cousin

You no doubt have heard of Grants onward move to Richmond", and of the fight on the 29th Ult; and you no doubt imagined that I was in it; and so I was " ", and thanks to a kind providence, came out of the engagement wuth only a slight wound, which with proper care will be well in a few weeks and I shall be ready for another fight, but I shall wait until I am ordered back this time, and then I shall have no cause for regret should I be seriously wounded. What I got this time I consider no more than just to pay me for my discontent while in Beaufort Hospital. I have seen more of war since I returned to the Army (only twenty one days) than in my two years experience previous to that time. I have been wounded in every battle I have been in so far. What my future experience is to be I do not know but have some hopes of my life being spared: God has been very good to me so far, and I hope I shall never forget my obligations to him for all his Mercies -- The prospect now is that all of us who are able to walk will be sent further north. I think however that my wound is too slight for that and that I will be sent to the front soon but no matter, I am ready to go either way and any where, though you ~~can~~ may guess where I would rather go, could I have my choice. If you write to Josie soon, tell her that I am all right. You may tell Uncle Charles that he may have my boots made, but not send them until I know where to have them sent. We are "giving it" to the "Rebs" now, and I think Richmond will have to fall, and then "Old Abe" will be re-elected , and every thing will come out all right in the end. As I do not know how long I am to remain here, I cannot give you my address now, so will close by sending my love to all.

Your Affct. Cousin,
L. M. Loper (signed)