Head Quarters Army of the Potomac  
Camp near Falmouth, Va. 
April 1863

Dear Mother,

I received your letter last night. I have just come in from our usual monthly inspection, and have nothing more to do to day that I know of except to write to you. Although I have but little to write that will interest you, more than to report myself well and in good health. Our troops crossed the river yesterday, and there was more or less fighting going on all day. We expected before this that a general engagement would have taken place, but all seems quiet to day. A number of prisoners were brought in yesterday. Two
of them who deserted and crossed the river. Report that a large number of the rebels laid down their Arms yesterday morning. The story is not credited. We have every hope that Hooker will be successful. I expect before this reaches you to see some lively times. We had a fall of rain last night, all cleared off pleasant to day. So Helen thinks I am not as prompt to write as usual. But allow me to say that I never fail to answer all letters as soon as I receive them. One of our Boys has just come in camp from the river. He says that Hooker has got three Corps in their rear, got possession of both Rail Roads. One division on this side of them, right under their nose, the rest of our Army are still on this side of the river. He says our skirmishers are not ten rods apart. General Hooker now says that having possession of the rail roads Lee must come out and fight him on his own grounds or lay down his Arms. as

They can get no more supplies they must either fight us or give up. If this is only true I must say it is a cool piece of business. I think of nothing more to write at present and will close with a promise to write again in a day or two.

As Ever your affectionately,
Charles

10 O'clock P.M.
P.S. A brisk fire has been kept up all the afternoon on the river. The pontoon bridges will be taken up to night for the purpose of Crossing on another place. I was down to the river about sundown. I could see our men on the other side lying on the grass within fifteen rods of the enemy taking things as cool and comfortable as you please neither side offering any molestation at this point, while at a distance on the right heavy Cannon could be heard. Charlie
1863, General Hooker has troops in rear of Lee's army; says the General must come out-and fight: win or lose. Lay down his arms.

Mrs. David J. Roberts

Glen Falls

Warren Co.

N.Y.