In camp near Fairbury, Ill.
December the 7th, 1862

Dear Martha:

I take the opportunity

of writing you a few lines

hoping this will find you

and all friends and my sweet

son in good health as this

leaves me in at present. Thank

god for his mercy to us all

I have not much of intrigue to

write about. Breckenridge has been

moved from head of the army

and Burnside took his place and

then Burnside has been removed

and Hooker has taken his place. Of the

land forces and Burnside is

takes the Navy. So I think

the Lincoln government is

plained out a will soon play

out if it is flat alone.

I am camped in site of

the army for the last 1

too much and looking for

them to come across the
river and when the
lane across the mill gate
badly whipped and I think that
it will be the last big
fight that we will have in
this war and I will be glad
when this is over for it is a
poor sight when at the least
the north will never conquer
the south in the world for
the ladies of Richmond daint
alike of socks and shoes to the
11th loves regiment and cut
the carpet of the floor to make
blanket for the soldiers and
does to them for nothing
what do you think of that
I think it will shake that
all hell wood not conquer
the south for the last man that
is in the south will die first
but I think the north is
growing mighty out with
the war and I wish it was
at once and I wish at home.
I will try to give you the prices of some of the things we have to buy in this country. Coffee is worth 3 dollars a pound and salt one dollar a pound. Sugar one dollar hard and black pepper is worth 5 dollars a pound and pork is worth fifty cents a pound. Whiskey is selling for a nine-gallon full one dollar. Chickens one dollar and fifty cents a dozen. Eggs one dollar a dozen. If selling from twenty cents a pound. A pair of shoes will cost 12 to 25 dollars apiece and boots will cost 50 to 75 dollars. And I get a full 10 dollars a month so none content. Cannot lay much with what money I get. It is hard to keep body and soul together. I have had one of the best dinners the other day I have eaten since I last came. I had Irish potatoes.
and white had calling
and you hate it was nice
bail with lapsin it old
home told you and porter about
it but I know that there
was no danger now tell
comes that I will be at home
the next time she will want
the old man to run in the
night you say that you think
I must suffer for want of aide
but I think I am doing very well
compared with others we have got
a wagon and two mules and
it is worth a sheep in cairn
blanket I must come to cake
give my love to enquire
friends except Peter tell your
mother that for her obliged to
to her for her kindness to
me and am Mr. Campbell
when you write darat your letters
by the way of Marshall and
Wesley Missippi do same from
your friend till at date
James Campbell