Sept. the 16th 1862

Camp Herney (?) Washington

Distric of Collumbia

Dear Wife & little blesed chrildren. I take my pen in hand to rite you a few lines to let you know that I am well. I hope you are enjoying the same blesing. Two or three of the boys are sick but are gitting better now. George & Eber are well. We left Norwich Thursday night. Got to Jersey sitty Friday morning on the boat. Took the cars, 2 trains & arived at Philadephia at 3 am. Took supper, good place. Nice folks. Shouldred knapsacks, march 2 miles, hard work. Took cars, 40 in one train. Road all night, arrived in Baltimore next day 10 Am. Hard place. Took cars again. Roade all day, arrived in Washington saturday night sundown, a cold supper. Slept in the barracks saturday night. Sunday morning, cold breakfast. Went round the Capital sunday morning. Saw 6 hundred rebbel prisnors. 10 Am took march to camp 1 ½ miles. Dropt knapsack. Night roled up in blanket. Slept on the ground sunday night. Did not kitch any cold. We are on a large plain with probley 8 or 10 thousand souldiers rite in sight of the capital ports. In sight all round on all of the hills acomin from delaware to washington we se gards all of the way & camps every few (?). They have got from 2 to 3 thousand rebbel prisnors in washington now. They are a fighting all of the time now. It would make your eyes stick out to see the army trains here, hundreds of pontoons, boats to form briges with for the army to cross the rivers with.

Give my respects to all of the felahs. Tell them I am the same Harris as usual. It is not very hot here now. Tell Mary Anna I have not seen any of them magnolia flours yet. When I do I shall think of her little song. Tell little [Johney] that father has seen a lot of them little colt mules down here. I will trie to bring him home one when I come if I can but don’t know when that will be. Since I rote the above we have had orders to take one days rations & be off in quick time. So good by for the present.

G. H. Harris