Camp Near Freidickburg Va

Jan the 4 1863

Dear wife & little blessed chrildren. I wish you all a happy new year and may God grant it may be a happy year to us, although it is not so pleasant now. Yet I hope it will be beffore long. I received your letter yesterday dated the 28 & was very glad to here from you that you ware all well. I hope these lines will find the same. My health is not very good now. I have had the yellow Jaundice which makes me very week now. But with Gods help I hope soon to be strong again. George is well now. Eber is well. He is a good Christian now I think. I wish thare was more christians than thare is for, Eunice, this place will try mens souls if any thing will. You rote you had not sold the hay but should have to git money to pay the interest. I thought you would have anuff. You said you let Wm $20.00 out of your bounty and the pay come to 20.00 more and I sent Wm a $10.00 check which makes in all $50.00. We expect to be paid off in a few days now. You will draw again soon from the state. I shall send home all of the money I can spare when I git my pay. You wanted to know what I thought of [settling?] up this war. I will tell you I have been in almost 5 months out of the 36 [3 year enlistment] and I dont se as it looks aney briter [brighter] than it did when home. They will fight as long as they have men but never will beat the south, I dont think, for this battle at Friedrickburg was [a] discouring [discouraging] one to our souldiers. But if the good old Democrats can git the power again, which I hope they will soon for I see they are againing very fast, then I think that peace will once more smile on our country and the poor souldiers [can] return to their dear ones at home. I want it settled up some way or the other for it is [hard] to be here far from home. I got your stamps, was glad for I had got out. You must send me some more. I have got plenty of paper and envelopes. Eber gave [some] to me he had come in his box. We got our box the last day of Dec so we had, you se, a new years meal. Our things came safe and good, nothing spoilt. Some of the boxes that came a few days before ours did, their things [were] all spoilt. You had better sell what hay you have to spare. Wm will look to it I suppose. Tell William to git out every Democrat this spring to vote. Tell him if our reg was back to Connecticut this spring thare would not be many black votes cast out of our reg for we have seen anuff of the party. I will try to rite you as often as once a week. You must rite me twice a week for it is very cheering to have a letter from home. Kiss the little bleseds for me. Tell them to be good chrildren. So good day.

Your affectionate Husband

Geo H Harris