

Wheaton, 4<sup>th</sup> Regt. Ft. Pol.  
Whitehouse Landing Va. May 15<sup>th</sup> 1862

Dear Sister & Cousins All.

We the Army of the Potomac are here  
in Camp probably to stop for a Day  
or two to rest up get our supplies of  
fodder along and I think waiting  
for Banks and McDowell to come up  
to the river we seem to be having a  
sort of Bear Hunt. but I am afraid  
the Bear will escape before we can  
get a good Price for it. We are now  
within forty five miles of Richmond  
and I suppose shall move on it in a few  
Days. We get authentic news of the  
Destruction of the Merrimac and  
the occupation of Norfolk by our troops  
under Command of Lincoln & Pickett.  
I should think this would tend to discourage  
the Rebels as it deprives them of their  
principal reliance on water and