

Newports News Aug 2nd

Dear Maria

You see by the date of this that we are still here and not on our way home as we expected a week ago but the transport is now at the fort which is to take us and we are to leave here Monday morning at five o'clock for Newbern and we will probably be at Prattletown Wednesday and in abt one week from that time you may expect to see me and probably not much sooner as it will take 5 or 6 days to muster us out and pay us off. I have just been talking with the officers as to my leaving the Co. and going to Danby, to see my friends and go to S. with you and they say it will be impossible for me to