

April 2^d 1863

Dear Maria

We have just arrived at Ball's Bluff after a ride of 3 days & 3 nights which has been very fatiguing for in addition to riding & being troubled for our rest we have had 451 prisoners the guard and so on. We have however got along nicely and have not lost a man. I have just been through the Cars and counted them and find the number all right. Col Stowell has gone to find out what is to be done with them. I presume we will have to go with them to City point but may be not. I shall ship my trunk to you from this place and buy me a shawl. I send my shawl as it does not answer any better than a blanket and is worth more at home. We don't know where we are to finally stop but I presume we will join one or the other of the 11 Brigades. I hear that some of the 11 Boys have gone west with Curran's but don't believe it. It is now 6 or 7 A.M. and I must get down my horse & eat my lunch.

We are to draw rations here as the men are entirely out of food. I will write again in a few days and let you know where and how we are. If you write you had better direct to Washington but I am afraid I would not get them then.

Keep the Children and Hattie

Ever Affly Yours
V. L. Barney