

Camp of Vermont 12th Regt -
Near Fairfax Ct. House - Va.
Dec. 31st 1862 -

Sister Laura -

Your letter mailed the
28th was rec'd tonight. We are still in our camp
here but how long we shall be I don't know
for we have been threatened by the rebels for the
last three or four days & are now under orders
to be ready to march at a moment's notice with
two days rations. My trunks are all packed
& every thing lies ready for moving instantly -

Mary is still boarding at Mr. Whaley's - She has
not yet stopped in Camp as it is hardly safe
& it will not do for me to be absent for we
are liable to be called out at any time -

We had quite an excitement & a little fight
the other night about a mile from here. Mary
did not sleep much thro' the night I reckon.
Our Regt. was ordered out Sunday evening while
Mary was here, & we left while she was still
in Camp. Col. Blunt was gone to Fairfax Seminary
about eighteen miles from here & the command of
the Regt. devolved upon me. We marched up
to the Court House & then took the road to Washington
till we came to a redoubt & some rifle pits about