

Steamer Zepher leaving Agassiz  
Creek for Washington Dec 30

Dear Home, The result of my applica-  
tion for leave to go to Washington  
with the soldier's corpse was ~~not~~  
leave refused, as no leaves are granted  
in any case except where the different  
grades of surgeons certify that it is abso-  
lutely necessary to save life; but after a  
journey to round the 140 surr. at Dept. Regd  
division, Corps, and grand division  
in regular order I recd a "Special order"  
No. 37" from Gen. Franklin wch commanded  
that "S. P. Stone Chaplain 6<sup>th</sup> Vt. Vols will imme-  
diately proceed to Washington &c", you see  
there is quite a difference between be-  
ing permitted and being ordered.

Then an ambulance was ordered  
and during the night I rode to the lower  
landing at Bell Plain where I got the  
Provost Marshal's pass, sent my horse  
back to camp by one of the ambulance  
men, was raised in a small boat  
to Capt Pittman's landing, got his  
order for transportation, slept a  
little in cousin John's tent, went out  
to assist Chaplain Hale who was brought  
down in our ambulance to go to the  
hospital at Washington, got on board