

South Mountain Pass Md^d July 7th 1863

My dear wife.

Here we are right in the
trench of the enemy. Who are retreating toward us
as we lay between them and the river.
Some 1700 Rebel prisoners passed through our
Camp yesterday on their way to Washington -
and I must say that I never saw such
a deplorable set of beings in my life as
these poor wretches are. They had not
had any thing to eat for 3 days. Our boys
were very kind to them. They took their
own rations out of their Haversacks and
gave to the prisoners - and that makes the
act more praiseworthy is the fact that it
was the last they had.

You would laugh to see my wardrobe. one
pair pants 2 shirt 2 pair drawers one pair boots and
one spur - had to throw everything else away.
I can tell you that we are a rough looking
set of men. We are encamped on the side
of South Mountain one of the highest in