Washington, June 30th, 1861

Dear Friend Donnelly & Lady,

I will write this as a family letter, you will see by the heading of this letter that I am in the famous City of Washington, now I will tell you how I am Writing this Letter and where we are Encamped, On Capitol Hill about ten minutes walk from the Capitol, it is Sunday afternoon and there is no drill to day I am seated under a tent where there are ten of us together, our tent contains the four coming persons Kendall, Wycoff (who is the chief of our Club) each club has three tents) Harrison, Dore, Mansfield, Mathews, Busch past Denny and the undersigned, I am writing this on a cartridge box with ten rounds of cartridges inside of it and if I make any mistakes you must excuse them, our ink had run out so that I have to write with a lead pencil, Our Camp is called "Camp Minnesota" well now having commenced this letter I will turn back and give you the incidents of our journey to this place, June 22nd embarked on board of Steamers Northern & Michigan and proceeded to St. Paul, from there after taking our last farewell and the last kind word we again started away for Montreal, By the way I learned that you were in
At Park that day, I expected to meet you in Hastings, but of course did not, well. We arrived in Hastings about 11 O'clock, and there I was disappointed. Concluded to go see you nor Mrs. Donnelly nor any one that I knew except Kate Stegner, well from there we went to Red Wing, before we landed again and there we all went through the same manner that we did in Hastings, and it was the same at Lake City, Mankato & Winona. We arrived at La Crosse at 12 O'clock, that night, where we slid on to the cars and away we rode for Chicago. Well then I went to sleep for that night, so ended the first day. Well the next morning we woke up about ten O'clock, and expected to get something to eat, but we were a many until 1 O'clock when we got some fat Pork 'n' Chill from fat. We arrived in Chicago at 6 O'clock, where we marched through that fast town, and received the applause of Thousands of Ladies & Gentlemen, Embarked again in about an hour on the Pittsburg Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, the same thing in the morning of a barre freight and was gone through with all along the Route at every town, house, town and city we were received with the same enthusiasm. The applause, by the way, we passed through the town of Lincoln where we were well received, I believe that is the place Mr. Flannery used to live at, arrived at Pittsburgh about 10 O'clock at night, but they were none for us, with hot coffee, pies and cakes, and every thing that was good to eat.
and drank, we changed cars here and started for Hammond. While we arrived the next afternoon about 3 O'clock and pitched our tents for the first time. Started the next morning at 3 O'clock for the Pungy Ugly City of Baltimore at which place we arrived about 3 O'clock, that afternoon two of the companies had their guns loaded, but we did not, we marched about 2 miles through the city. Our Regiment was the 3 Regiment only thing ever got Cherub going through that renowned place, but it was hot. Started for Washington, and arrived there about 12 O'clock that Wednesday night and stopping in a large unfinished building, next morning we had leave to roam one the city the first place that I heard and myself made a break for the Capitol, that was at 6 O'clock went all over it. And to the very highest place that we could climb to by the Dome, I will write more about this building after I see it again from there we made tracks for a Restaurant where we had one good meal of beef, steak & coffee and from there we visited the Patent Office but I will write all about that building in my next. Yesterday which was Sunday I visited the National Monument and the Treasury Department, besides walking around the grounds that Jeff Davis was going to dine in on the Fourth of July, but which I think he will not
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To go and drill soon. By the by, I don't understand you are a military man, well success to you and your affairs. I am going to get my uniform and in about ten days I am going to get my reg. I've taken and send it to you, and in return I would like your's and Mrs. Pommer's taken and put in one suit and sent here. I don't consider that I have many friends in Minnesota but your family I would like to see you and me this immediate at there it is no injuring from here. We may be laid away. I am, as I will give you a history of camp life in my next letter. I have best respect to my friends in MININGEN, and to Mrs. PADDY in Philadelphia. When you write to her again, Kendall will write some on that dirt. What I hear it. You can read then you will do it better than I can, but I must help it do good.

Bye,

From your friend,

Henry W. Endergren.
In a few words in addition to his already well-filled letter, and I am at a loss what more of interest there is to write of at present, but I think if I could have a small donkey or two to hold this sheet of paper still I could write more conveniently.

Our journey to this place was short and uneventful; but at the same time novel and pleasant, more so to me on account of its being my first experience in considering, and my first view of the country so far east. I was not at all surprised at the speed of the eons, nor at the change of climate, for the one mount slopes another, and the other changes more gradually than I expected myself for. The only change that I perceive here, this is that the nights are quite as warm as they are in Minnie Rock.

The last day that we travelled in Minnie Rock was most oppressive in them any day we have had here. The crops, until we come to Pennsylvania, are not any more for men than at home; especially corn which is barely out of the ground, and as a general thing looks poorly; and nowhere does the wheat grain as heavy nor grow as tall as at home, though nearer north. Fruit, of course is more abundant and ample forage. But as I commenced this page, I forgot it all, and as I ate a part of most delicious blackberries, and so
you will see, I have left my mask in the corner, and the snow, the cherry, and apples are green. The green and the cherries are very plentiful. The peaches are coming on finely, and the peaches will be plenty.

Their method of counting change was to agree upon some price my son; when I went into the store for a pie, I was at a loss to know whether I was able to do so or not. But $0.15 or 12 cents a card the donkey go, but I am not in a hurry. One of our boys and a bit. It will take some time for us to get ourselves into their city, and they talk so much of the progress of the steamer Freeborn during her engagement with the rebels at Matthias Point, in which Capt. W. Allen was killed. His private secretary was at our camp, next day our service, they say first the enemy's bullets fell amongst the scene of the vessel, and then the stone on deck, in plain sight, some fingers gone. Twenty shots from the cannon. When the balls commenced flying nearer, the gunner turned and took his pleasure, which compelled him to do a hasty retreat behind the wheel-house, from where he continued to fire for some time and thinks that some of the rebels must have known their long absence through his influence.


Julian, Soldier.
I understand prices for the ink have gone up. I don't know if it has just run in, I'm hooked on it.

June 30, 1861

of darkness
9 1/2 night

I wish to know
Please let

Henry L. Richardson