Great Victory for the Union

12,000 prisoners taken. 90 pieces of artillery captured. A great quantity of corn, sand, and corn meal.

Camp near Chattanooga, Tennessee

darling this is written indeed I never suffered so much with the cold in Maine sitting by the fire writing darling and did not start the night I said we would we went the next night at 12 o'clock we crossed in boats it was the prettiest sight I ever saw there were over one hundred boats from 20 to 30 men in each one we had good luck in crossing our Brigade was in advance of our Divisions kept skirmishing for our Brigade I don't know whether we will be noticed by the papers or not we deserved it we advanced from the river to Mission Ridge it rained all day and was very cold I spent the Ball by taken one prisoner by the name of William C. Bradford the 1st complimented
Me very highly for bravery and good judgement - that has never been done before in our Regt. The Capt. says that wins a sergeant's brevet as soon as there is a vacancy. I did not do it for promotion. I did it for the fun. If there were two of them, I thought I could not manage them both. I was alone less of Lt. A. started with me but their hearts failed them. Frank Demerse was one of them been worth for promotion ever since he has been in the service. They were careful men. I got one horse and gun. It was a nice horse. Six men of our Regt marched through an open field. Lt. B. was one of them and they were pouring the balls in to us. We had but one man wounded. Lt. I. in the knee, we were relieved that night and were not in the fight the next day. Our Dr. is lost very heavy. You will see the report before you get there. We followed them 20 miles.
Through the mud we expect to march for Bridge Fort to-morrow we will soon go in to winter quarters. The roads are so bad the horses can hardly draw the empty wagon. Love I have no more to write. I looked for a letter several days ago but have none yet. Darling if we can ever get out of camp so that I can have a tent to write in I will send long letters. Love it so bad writing in the cold. I think this victory will be a deadner on the Rebels with ever so much love from your John.