Camp of 11th N. Y.
2nd Battery
Fort Wheaton
Feb 10th 1862

I

Dear Mother

Your very kind letter of the 5th was received last evening and I can assure you that I was glad to hear from you. The ~~no~~ money and postage stamps arrived all safe.

I was ~~[illegible]~~ sorry to learn that one of our friends (Phebe Austin) had been called upon to depart from this to another world — It is hard to part with friends but we should remember that she is removed from the cares and troubles of this world

to enjoy a life eternal — While some fall upon the fields of deadly conflict — others are swept away by disease. With in the past few days many have been laid within the silent ~~to~~ tomb — We have been having a very severe battle a few miles south of here They fought for three days commencing on sunday last — but our battery was not engaged — Our battery has been relieved from post ~~[illegible]~~ Welch.

Our guns moved last night — about three miles from here — and are now lying between here and Hatchers run — I am a driver on the caisons consequently I did not

have to move — I presume our caisons will move in the course of a few days — I am well as usual and have plenty to eat at present — Yet there is some of the men that complain that they do not have enough to eat — There was a man in my tent this morning belonging to a battery that relieved us who said ~~had~~ he had got no money but wished to trade off a very nice pocket ~~bo~~ book for some hard tack — I did not trade with him but gave him part of my rations, I considered that I would be wrong to take the ~~advantage~~ advantage of a man because

he was out of money and half starved — I have got seven days rations on hand — And we are ordered to keep so much on hand to untill further orders — I received a letter from Uncle L. T. Reuler. He is well and enjoying himself very well — You need not send me any box untill at present and if I shall be situated so that a box will reach me I will inform you of it — Did you get the order I sent you — And did Mr. Bispell pay it — You did not say anything about it in your letter — As for paper and envelopes you can send them by mail that as well as you can by express — and you can buy it much cheaper there I can here — I shall have paper & envelopes enough to last me a spell yet — I wrote to you day before yesterday — does our folks know where they will move next spring — Write as soon as you get this — I was glad to hear from Emma I shall answer her letter as soon as I have leisure — as I have no more news I will close — Direct as before — Yours &c Geo. D. Barringer