

Army of Northern Virginia,
October 7th 1863.

James White Sr.;

Dear father: your kind letter bearing date Oct. 1st came to hand on yesterday evening, and found me in remarkably good health, but I was very sorry indeed to learn that you were unwell, from a disease or misery in your breast & stomach, also I am sorry to hear the sad news from J. B. McLoir, his being wounded so seriously and supposed to be by deserters, I hope that he may get well and succeed in finding out the one that inflicted the wound. I fear those deserters will do injury to many good Citizens of our country more than in our land, I still remain in at the same place from which I wrote you before, I heard from Bro. Oliver the other day he is about 30 miles from us, I am of the opinion that he is in General Heth's Division in General A. P. Hill's Corps. So if we have any engagement up here I shall be very apt to see Oliver, Sturging arrived, We have been expecting a fight up here for the last month but every thing appears quiet at this time though the enemy is in very strong force on the opposite side of the River, we are stationed on the Rapidan River about 18 miles from Orange Court House, a little town where the rail road runs to, so you can perceive that we are at some distance from any rail road. I can see the Yankees every day they are about a quarter of a mile from us when we are on picket duty, We go on picket every fourth day, but the duty is not disagreeable as we