

Give up or turn or the army has got to far across the Rappahannock to be able to establish another base nearer Richmond.

afternoon, and almost every man carries some. The 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Corps are said to be coming here, - so by the time operations begin we shall have a large army. I do not think we shall move from here under two weeks, perhaps not then, certainly not if the weather should prove bad and the roads get very muddy. The snow and the rains, which have followed it have disappeared. We have no doubt have some heavy fighting before we get to Richmond, but we are bound to go there this time. - Yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> came to hand this evening. - Certainly divide the vines with mother: I can get slips afterwards if he wants them. - Your uncle John's letter came last night. I shall send you at least a hundred dollars in a few days if I can get a check on Philadelphia from Tom Butler. It will be hard to say when I can send you any more, - perhaps my next assistance will be from Richmond!! - If Robt. doesn't come down here to see me, I doubt whether he will get the chance, tho' he may, as we may be left to guard the rail-road for some time yet. What arrangements will be made for guarding it when we leave we are as yet ignorant of. It is likely the line of communications will be

If we are left to guard the rail we may be here a month longer. But at this a conjecture. The Corps they form divisions while the other have not thrown another it is however only stronger than the other. I do not know.

Gen. Griffin  
Command our  
Division. He  
is from Ohio  
& is a Captain  
in the 5<sup>th</sup> Regt. -  
- a very fair offer -  
Gen. Taylor  
is a Captain's  
The 1<sup>st</sup> Regt. regt.  
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The 3<sup>d</sup> Regt. regt.  
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est thing I know is the appearance of Charlotte Varian at Gottschalk's concert in Washington as "Mlle Charlotte Varian Donna Spinoza!" The poor creature having tried nearly every other dodge as been compelled to resort to this one to increase her "drawing" power. She is leading a perilous life and without the chas high moral principle I am afraid she will not come out of it unspotted before the world. I suppose Gen. S patronised her as devotedly as ever. 13 of the way, is Eloise what's her name, nie Morrison in Washington yet? They speak somewhat slightingly of the girl employed in the Treasury Department with how much reason I'm sure I can't say. Many of them are said to be pretty, and as they

Have generally been placed there thro' the influence of Members of Congress, most of whom do not bear a very exalted reputation for purity, it is not at all surprising that actions should be attributed to them of which they may be innocent. I have some curiosity to know whether the person mentioned ~~is~~ is still there. Has the Gen. got his interesting young ladies at Washington with them? He poor fellow fails to lead the House on Military affairs, greatly to his chagrin I imagine. Of course, I am very sorry. Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> A rumor comes down to us this morning that we are to be brigaded with Volunteers. I am afraid the rumor will prove true, - if it should, there will be a very much disgusted lot of officers in it. Some have threatened to resign but I do not suppose they will when the

rub comes. Your humble servant takes the calamity with his accustomed serenity! Let her rip! If we are to stay in this army, it won't make any very great difference when we are put, as in any event they mean to get as much fighting out of us as possible. —

Well, the order has come and the Regular Brigade is a brigade no more. Gen Ayres Division — one brigade and another is consolidated into one brigade and is the Third Brigade of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division 5<sup>th</sup> Corps. Gen Ayres has the same <sup>actual</sup> command he had before, but it has reduced in grade from a Division to a Brigade. He does not like it, I think, and Capt Anderson does not like the idea of my taking command of the regiment. Troops are going in the army rapidly — four trains loaded passed here together this