

Arlington Heights Va
Sept 4 - 1862

Dear Governor

Again we find ourselves back where month ago we started without accomplishing the object but on the contrary "if I was allowed to speak" defeated & driven from the enemy's soil. At the Rapadan we were under Gen Byrd & continued with him until we fell back to Sulphur Springs. Here Gen Pope ordered us to report to Gen Porter at Catlett's Station & we marched at the head of his division one day & was sent for three times by Gen Pope to join him at Monessas which we did on the 29 & we remained with Gen Pope as a kind of body guard through the battle of the 29-30 & 31. All of this time we had a good opportunity to see & know all that was moving.

The Right or a portion of it has been under fire at every battle of importance & yet we have had none killed six privates wounded not dangerously some six or seven taken prisoners & some 25 horses killed & captured. This we considered very good luck as we have ever done our duty on all occasions, but have been highly favored by position in all the

engagements, Men & horses alike & are much
worn & need rest. We are now attached to Gen
Reno's command. There are the Rights all around
us & I know we must be strongly represented
here. There is a loss of confidence in Gen
& in the Army that is most lamentable
All looks dark, foreshadowing ~~nothing~~
a change & it must be for the best
as we cannot go backwards longer as
we are driven quite to the wall & must
stand fast & ought to advance or we
are nationally disgraced

Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
S. H. Allen