Dear Sir,

Your pleasant letter of the 10th was read by yesterday's mail, and I hasten to respond.

Since I last wrote, your humble correspondent has been on the tromp after the universal Yankee, much to the disarrangements of his own plans of a steady visit home. To say nothing of several valuable articles of clothing that went up the spout during the trip. An outline of the march may not prove uninteresting. Orders to prepare three days' rations came on the 6th. We marched on the 8th, crossing the Rapidan and liberty dikes, and advanced toward Madison C. H. Certain unmistakable signs indicated our position after a two days' march. To be on the right flank of the enemy. Ewell had crossed in the meantime advancing toward Culpeper C. H. The enemy, "smelt a mouse," and essayed a counter movement. We pursued him. The swift-footed Yankee left us in the rear. Our corps continued on the flank, marching a la Jackson, through marshy, over hills, and in woods, overtaking
The enemy was quietly at Boston Station four miles from Manassas. Here comes the record of a shamefully mismanaged affair, which reflects much discredit upon Major Gen. Sickel, who commanded the front division of the 3rd Corps. He hurried into the fight and pulled two brigades of North Carolinians, whom the enemy entrapped and upon whom was inflicted a severe loss. One of our batteries was captured by the retreating foe, its support being confused. Our Brigade was double-quieted two miles, but the Yankees were safe on their way to Manassas.

We left the next day, tearing up in our way the Orange & Alexandria Rail Road from Bristol to Rappahannock Station. Stuart pursued the enemy vigorously, and administered
Several good thrashings to his cavalry. He captured partly 300 prisoners.

We are now within eight miles of Culpeper C.H. and things seem quieter, although the enemy's cavalry pickets 1½ miles north of the Rappahannock River. It is also reported that Meade occupies Warrenton in some force. I cannot say what Lee's object is at present. We may take up again the Rapidan line, or may occupy the present one. The victory just achieved is not the least a victory tho' a bloodless one, as the enemy may have aided out of his strongholds on Cedar Mountain. There has been a rumor that Bragg will be reinforced by our division, but it is simply a "camp dispatched," and lack, the authority
to excite belief. Your visit to this most indeed have been a pleasant one. The fall of fame as the Palmetto was certainly a reminiscence of days long gone by. These days were blessings we didn't appreciate. May they soon return! Clear the scenes of war soon be reminiscences of the past. May the family circle be reunited even by the whispering lilies, and gentle flowers reestablish their fallen thrones. In this dread home, arrayed with figures of speech - and let us ask Him who ruleth all, to stay the bloodshed, and appease the wraths of our implacable Enemy.

Excuse this hurried letter. During my absence to New York...

Yours truly,

Eugene F. Mitchell.