

Charlottesville Kanawha county Va
Wednesday. 6. P.M. July 10th 1861.

My dear 'Mammy,' Though I wrote at Lewisburg on Sunday, & notwithstanding letters are so high, I am again seated at the table to tell you of the great & almost unexpected success with which I have met. We started from Lewisburg at 7 1/2 AM on Monday. There were in the stage with me, Col. Farish, of Appomattox, Col. McVernoth, both aids of Gov^r now Gen^l Wise, Major Parkes of this place a member of the convention, and elected in place of Judge Sommers, ^{who} resigned (The Major was the Secession candidate and had no opponent) Capt. F. P. Turner of Jackson Co., which adjoins this, (no relation I believe yours), likewise, a member of Convention, Mr. Fuqua, a perfect gentleman, with whom I became perfectly well acquainted and like him very much, and a beauti-

ful young lady, who accompanied us only
about 25 miles. She told me (I had the
pleasure of escorting her up a mountain
over which we all preferred to walk) and
~~she told me~~, she had been to Staunton two
years ago, & knew Miss Annie Peack. From
~~Staunton~~ Lewisburg to Charleston is 100 miles,
and it is an exceedingly unpleasant trip.
We arrived here last night or rather
this morning at 2 o'clock. The scenery
from Lewisburg here is beyond description.
The Alleghany and its branches meet the
eye every where. We crossed over several
of these ridges, two of which, Big Sewell
and Little Sewell were witnessed, over-
looking the whole country for miles.
I think, in this ride, I saw more
beautiful scenery, than ever before in my
life. I wish I was able to describe it,
but must confess that even if language
was adequate, I am not - I must mention
however one place that reminded me of
the rocks opposite Shannondale. It is

about 30 miles from here. We got
out of the stage, and walked a short
distance, when, having turned a rock,
one of the most sublime spectacles ^{"The Hawks nest"} I
ever witnessed was presented to my
eyes. We were standing on the edge
of a rock, overlooking the Kanawha
river, 1300 feet high. There were moun-
tains on all sides, and we could see
them far away in the distance, di-
appearing, as it were in folds. I shall
always remember this ride as one of
the most novel and picturesque, I ever
enjoyed. This morning I went to
the Genl's Headquarters, but found
that he had gone out to a camp
about 2 miles from town. This eve-
ning after dinner, I went again.
There were several there and I was
detained for some time. Mr. Lucas
(Dan) who is clerk, introduced me to
the Genl, and as soon as I showed the

latter my recommendations he in more
diately told me, he would gladly receive
my services. He told me to come up
tomorrow morning, and Capt. Harvey
would give me an order to drill Capt.
Taylor's company at "2 miles camp," (2
miles out of town). I sat talking to
the Gen^l for some time, told him I
had several times been near seeing him
at my Grand Ma's. He asked me then
whether Mr. Turner was my Grand-
Ma, and seemed more pleased, yet, to
find she was. He says he has 2800 men,
though it will be better not to say much
about this. There was a fight a day or
two since between the Richmond Blues, Capt.
O. J. Wise (son of the Gen^l) and a portion of
a ranger company, and a detachment
from the Indiana and Ohio regiments.
There were 115 of the former, and about 2150
of the latter. It took at Ripley about 40
miles from here. Though the enemy were
on a hill, they ran, and we captured
17 killed 7. Most of the companies
here are armed with the mountain
rifle, and they certainly know how to use it.
Many are armed with the flint lock musket.
The Richmond Blues is the only company here
armed with the Minnie musket. The men
are large stout hearty men, accus-
tomed to labor, hunting, and the mountains.

Gov. Floyd is coming on soon with 3 regiments - In a month I suspect there will be 10 or 12,000 men here which is all they need. We will then take a trip to Ohio, and outlet it a little for the man they have treated us - Scouting parties of the enemy are prowling around the neighborhood continually plundering and making the people take the oath of allegiance to the "New Virginia." Charles town is right on the bank of the Kanawha, and ^{from} where I now sit I can see the river plainly about 60 yards distant. I think it a pretty place; about the size of Charles town. On the other side of the river are high bluffs like those on the Missouri.

I met with a young fellow in the Richmond Blues by the name of Burr, with whom I went to school this session at the E.H.S. He is only 16. I had a holster made to my pistol yesterday, and bought a bowie knife. If I had a good minnie musket I would be pretty well armed. Direct your letters to Charles town and I will get them. The Breakfast Bell has rung and I must feed. Good bye. Kiss Meggie for me and believe me to be your loving son -

Eugene C. ...

From Charleston
Kanawha Co
July -

1861

From E. J. C.