

Headquarters 6<sup>th</sup> U. S. Cavalry  
Camp near Antietam Bridge  
July 14, 1863

Dear Father,

Enclosed herewith, I transmit my commission as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry. At home it will be much safer than with me in the field. It would be well to have it framed.

We have positive information today, that the rebels have succeeded in crossing the greater portion of their army into Virginia. We regret it very much here. I suppose Genl. Meade has had good reasons for not attacking the enemy sooner. One thing is certain, and that is that they held a very strong position and were entrenched in it. We could not have driven them from it without immense loss.

I will write to you soon. I am in good health. Give my love to all.

Your affectionate son,  
L. Henry Carpenter  
Lieut. & Adjt. 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry

I think that your photograph is the best that you have ever had taken. Tell Mother that mine has already been "gobbled" by some of the officers. Also Capt. Brisbin has one. Wade, Tupper, & Balder the others. I received a very nice letter from Uncle Thomas yesterday. I have been engaged today making a plan of the route taken by our regiment during the raid, for Genl. Buford. McQuiston has rejoined the regiment, and of course, his own company "C". Having been relieved by him, in the command of that company, I am now waiting orders. I expect I shall be ordered to "L" again. Our band has joined. They played tonight the serenade from "Don Pasquale" (?) most elegantly.

L. H. C.