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**Transcriptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.**

Wilmington Del December 23. 1862

Dear Brother

We received a letter from you yesterday, and were glad to hear you are getting along, as well as you are. It seems a long time, since you were wounded, but I suppose it is impossible, for your wounds, to get well any faster, than they are. but I hope, it will not be long, before you are able, to use crutches, and we look forward with pleasure to the time, when we will be able to welcome you home. I am very glad you have not lost any of your limbs, Doctors ought to be prosecuted for taking off limbs when they might be saved. Cousin Cortland called yesterday, to hear from you, he says you may thank that Wisconsin Doctor, for saving your leg, he says that he is a nice man. I think you were very fortunate, to get with such good Doctors, what a blessing it would be if all the Doctors, in our Army were as noble concienious men. Uncle Steptoes family have

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not heard from John, since the battle of  
Fredricksburg, unless they have heard, within  
a few days, but as his name is not among  
those, in the list of killed or wounded, I  
hope he is safe. I do not know whether Fulton,  
was in that battle or not, I think Washington  
is still in Washington. I expect cousin Mark was  
in it, But I did not think to ask Cortland  
when he was here, he was in the battle of Antietam  
so was Joss Chandlee, Joss was wounded in the  
arm in the battle of Antietam. William  
Henry Steptoe, has not been heard from, I believe  
since he went South, with the intention, of  
joining the Secession Army, his brothers  
consider him a disgrace to the family, Fulton  
wrote home, that he must intend, to shoot him  
or Washington, or John, or he would not have  
went on that side. Aunt and Beckey are  
very much worried about him. I think that  
three Brothers, in the Union Army overbalances  
one in the Secession Army, and that Uncles  
family have done so well, that they can  
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Sarah is going out to Uncles, to spend  
Christmass, I had an invitation to go to,  
but I think I will stay in town. I intend  
to go to an exabition, a New Years night, at  
mount Saylem, so I will spend New Years day  
out at Uncles. Their Clock has stopped running,  
and Aunt is keeping it, without getting it  
repaired, wating very patiently for you, to  
try your hand on, when you get home, it whent  
very well for a while, affter you fixed it,  
before. Our Battery, and Cavelry, have both  
left their Camps, near Wilmington, They  
whent to Washington. We are not going to have  
our Christmass Dinner, untill you get  
home. Mother says she wishes, she could send  
you a Turkey, for Christmass, but it is  
impossible, to get it to you. We sent you  
a bok of salve, for your frosted toes, last  
friday, also a letter at the same time. I  
enclose a Dollar note in this letter, from  
mother. Cortland wishes you, to write to him,  
He and John, have written you several letters,  
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you do not receive them. Those two letters  
you wrote him, a good while ago, he received  
at last, they were not directed right, was  
the reason he was so long getting them His  
address is, Cortland Chandlee Chadds  
ford Delaware County Pennsylvania.  
You must be very carefull of your leg, and  
not get it hurt or get cold in it. Mother and  
Sarah join me in love to you from your  
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