

Head Quarters Ambulance Corps
2^d Division 2^d Army Corps
Sunday Eve Oct 9th 1864

Friend Ed.

Having a few moments
of leisure time, this pleasant, though very cool
evening, I thought I would quirk myself
down and try and write you a few lines in
answer to your kind and affectionate note of the
3^d Inst, which came safely to hand by this evening
mail, and was perused with the greatest of pleasure.
Truly pleased was I to learn you was having so
good times, and being in good health, can
fully appreciate them, as I well know how such
times pass away, as I was once young myself.
But time brings changes, and I must confess it
has brought some quite queer ones, as I thought
to-day, when I was over to the 9th A. C. and
visited the 38th Wis. Vol., I saw a quite a
large number of countenances there I little

expected to see in Uncle Sam's living. Well I
rather guess I have got a little ahead of my
story. I am well and in very good spirits for
me, and for the present are stopping at "Beach Quarter"
Ambulance Corps 2^d Div. 2^d Army Corps. I have been
here four days, and my business is to work in the
office, and the duty is light, compared to that
which I have been at during the past summer. I
like it very well here so far, and I think if
nothing happens I shall stop here a spell, as
the air is much pleasanter than at the extreme front.
Besides I have many more privileges here than I could get
if with my Co. Well to resume my story, in regard
to the boys in the 38th Wis Regt. Yesterday morning
not having much to do I saddled up and thought I
would see if I could find some one in the Army of
the Potomac I knew, outside of my own Regt. Well I
started and after going to our left about 6 miles I
came to the camp of the 38th which is for the present
in the 1st Brigade 1st Division 9th Army Corps and
commanded by Gen. Burnside. And here I found
George Hamman, Isaac & Charles & Lewis Welch, and
James Kindness, George Baldwin, John Mann, John Coyne

The rest of the boys I did not see as they was on Picket all of them is well except Charles Welch he is quite unwell having caught a severe cold, and Syrenus Welch was slightly wounded in his leg a few days ago while standing near his tent by a stray shot from some careless Johnny. The boys all feel well and look clean and nice as though they was ready for inspection but a few weeks of laying in the trenches I guess will take some of the the lustre off, and they will look as dirty and ragged as the 36th does. My Regt now lays in the front line near Petersburg. in the Bomb Proofs and gopher holes, and all the boys are in good health, and feel anxious for the enemy to try and break their lines. I dont think the army has been in any better spirits this campaign then they are at the present. Well I can just imagine how you all looked piled up in the ditch, but it must been a joke on the troops, and I wouldnt wonder if some of them got slightly cracked, but better be them than bones. (Yes I fully concur with you in your opinion as I have seen that Scirus I think it is one of the best I ever see. I am sorry to hear there is so much sickness prevailing in your vicinity. I was in hopes as the cool weather came on it would become more

healthy. Well you are the first one to tell me anything
in regard to Civil & Hart since he left us at Cold Harbor
and I have repeatedly enquired after him, but I am
not much surprised to hear he is not well, as I thought
when he left he would never come back to the Co.
again. But I am sorry to hear he is so back off as
he was a good soldier, and would prove a great
help to the Co. as it now is in a very reduced state
as regards Privates and noncommissioned officers. And
see I have heard from only once since he was wounded
do you know whether his wound will permanently
disable him or not. Well Ed I am "very" anxious
to learn who is coming down here from your way
next in blue. Well the same opinion exists here
in regard to the coming Election. The soldiers say
they do not want any peace until the main thing
they came here for is accomplished. Is the rebels to
throw down their arms and return to their allegiance
and as for an armistice, we see how just one night
armistice works, next morning we will see strong works
fronting us and snuggles of cannons frowning at us from
behind them. But if Little Mac had kept away from
Pentelton he would have all sound and I for one wish
he had. But I must bring my scribbles to a close.
Edgar W. Dick. My best wishes to you and all the friends
Brother John W. Dick. Address as usual