

I ask. I presume you can send  
me a letter to his care. I should  
like to find one waiting me when  
we get there. I shall send one  
to Aunt Kate to forward my  
letters, Charles to Old Point,  
as I see but small hopes of  
returning to Washington just  
yet. I shall then be able to  
get our 2<sup>d</sup> Certificate from Capt Saw-  
tell, the Dr. M. here.

On our way  
to Baltimore I shall be able  
to write again, but now I am  
hunted, & interrupted every minute.

Did I tell you I had a cook? I have  
also got a barrel of flour (\$8.00)  
& some stores etc. I have yet  
to get fresh meat for to days  
dinner.

Affecter  
Affecter

On board Lt. Achilles  
Fortress Monroe  
May 14<sup>th</sup> 1862.

Dear Father

I've been trying in  
vain to get a chance to send you  
or Mother a long letter. They  
keep us just as busy as we can  
be. At this present time we  
are coaling up for a trip to  
Baltimore, & expect to get off  
tonight or tomorrow. We are  
to tow the Steely Baker up for  
repair. She went on shore  
while landing troops at Ocean  
view the other night, & is looking  
badly. Of course ~~at~~ by the time  
this reaches you the news that  
Richmond has taken will be stale.  
I heard it yesterday but it  
was not generally known

here until today. You will prob-  
ably hear the news to-night.

I saw the officer who brought  
dispatches down from the fort,  
& he says the city surrendered  
to the Monitor & Palena. Every  
shot they fired passed through  
& through the plow, set every  
thing on fire & knocked some  
houses on top of another. We  
have now the rebel army sur-  
rounded, & in a trap. I don't much  
believe they will give us any  
more hard fighting here, and  
I should not be surprised if  
they laid down their arms.

This news may change our desti-  
nation, & we may be sent up the  
river. I hope we shall be for-  
ward I should like to get to Richmond  
among the first. If we go on  
to Baltimore however I shall  
try & get a day or two to fix up.

I have your letter to Mr Brandt,  
& if I can obtain the time, will  
see him as soon as we arrive &  
have what repairs we want  
put through as quickly as  
possible. We need to clean boiler,  
put a patch or two on same &  
stop leak in steam chimney.

I will take no altogether abt.  
two days or a day & a night.

I wish they would keep us  
here a day or two longer, for  
I am expecting money from  
you, & if I go off now I shall  
just miss it. Of course it  
will be safe in Adams Express  
Office until we return, but I  
need it to use now. Is there any  
objection to my borrowing thirty  
or forty dollars from Mr Brandt?

I do not know how far he is  
your agent or what business relation  
you have with him, which is the reason