

London & I hope to be in that.

I must see Richmond be-
fore I go N.Y. We get very
little news here - merely
rumors, & cannot tell
what really is going on. I got
a Herald from one of the Low
Low nurses last night, &
it was extremely to be enjoyed
by myself. There was nothing
to be done but to read it right
through & hand it back to its
owner, for if I had lost it now
that would have been the last
of it. I haven't heard from
anyone ~~for~~ since I left Balt.,
but I know that I have at least
a dozen letters waiting me at
St. Mary's, Yorktown, & Wash.
Send one or two to the White House
for present use please -
Your loving son
Appleton

On board floating hospital
Ship "Knickerbocker" United
States Transport - Headquarters
of the Sanitary Commission, now
lying in the Pamunkey River
two miles below the "White House", Va.
Thursday Morning May 29th 1862.

Dearest Mother
I wrote to you Friday
when on board of the Achilles
but Mrs. Balester is going north
tomorrow in the Daniel Webster
& has kindly promised to give
you this! She will tell you
how very well I am, & how much
I have been enjoying myself on
board this boat. Tuesday after-
noon I got a small boat from the
Elm City & went off rowing with
Mrs. Balester & a Miss Bradley.
It was a splendid afternoon &
we had a beautiful time. We

went up above the White House
& through the bridge - were
gone some three hours & rowed
in all about six miles. The
exercise did me lots of good
& I have felt better ever
since. I did not watch at
all that night but slept like
a top until morning. Yesterday

I did not leave the boat, but
was busy here most all the time.

I took first watch & so got
off at 12 o'clock. Our men
are all better & it is really striking
to be able to see the good results
of the nursing. I think most

of our patients will be sent
home tomorrow. - I hope so for
it will do most all of them
good. There are but very few
in our ward now who are too
sick to be moved. I went over
to the Achille again this morning

& found all going on well - they
are giving her a good coat of
paint - something she very
much needs. I told Capt. A.
if he got no orders to-day, to
bring the small boat over this
afternoon & we would take a
row down the river. If the A.
is ordered off this morning
of course we shall lose our
sail, but there does not
seem any chance of our moving
from here for a week yet.

I shall rejoice to see you
as soon as the Dr. Webster leaves, so my
next letter will be dated
from my old quarters. You
must have had rather an exciting
time in N.Y. lately. I really
believe I should have gone off
with the 7th or 11th. Did
you go with the 22^d? There
will be some fun here yet