

back tracks for home we traveled about
four miles back in the woods & then
took a straight road for camp where
we arrived just at dusk the boys
were all very glad to see us for they
began to think that we had been
taken & were just starting out
to find out what had become of
us. Last night the Pennsylvania ~~protest~~
were fired on by the rebels & they
returned their fire killing three of
them & taking two of their horses
two of the Pennsylvanians were killed
in the fight this morning we can
see their pickets from the top of
the mill they are very bold for we
have not got more than three of our
cavalry here at one time unless they
are sure of an attack there is only
two hundred men here now there was
as many came from Fairfax Court house
this morning & he says that they have got
five thousand troops there one thousand
of which are horsemen we think from
the signs this AM that we will be
attacked this morning if they do we will
have to retreat to the fort & I am afraid
that we will lose a good many of our men
My love to all
Henry Hutcheson

Henry Hutcheson
June 30th 1861

Grays Mills June 30th

Dear Brother

I will try to let you
know something of what we are doing
out here on Monday last we were
ordered to the mill to take the place
of Co C who were ordered back to the fort
we are having a very exciting time
of it the rebels are all around us
on Tuesday afternoon they picked up
one of the scouts who was out looking
for berries the next day their horseman
came down on our pickets who were
within 1/4 mile of the mill & captured
two of them one of whom was the
cavalryman who was in the charge that
was made on the Fairfax Court house
some time ago he was the man who
picked one of them up & cut his head
off as he was riding through the town
with his company on Tuesday night the