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## Documents Online

**Title:** Letters from Thomas Dick (Sept. - Oct. 1862)

**Date:** September - October 1862

**Location:** MC 2001.10, B1, F5

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Camp near Sharpsburg

Sept Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 1862

Dear Brother

I received your kind letter yesterday evening and was glad indeed to hear from home. I am now seated for the purpose of making a hasty reply. you must not expect a long letter from me this time for I am very tired. And merely write to let you know that I am living and well. I have been in two battles since the date of your letter and escaped without being hurt. I was behind on the day George Bolas spoke of for the simple reason that I was not able to keep up. But I caught up when the Regt halted and have been with it ever since. I tell you we have done some tall marching and fighting too. We fought them at South Mountain on Sunday drove them over the mountain

The next day continued in pursuit meantime  
the artillery and cavalry skirmishing with  
the rear guard. We moved on to near  
Sharpsburg where the rebels determined to  
make another ~~xxx~~ stand. The fighting  
began a little before dark on Tuesday  
evening and there was occasional firing  
during the night; the next morning the ball  
opened in earnest. our division went  
into the fight about day break. we  
were relieved by fresh troops a little  
before noon. We had only one killed  
and some six or seven wounded David  
Overdorf was killed Spencer Stewart  
was shot through the hand Barclay was  
struck with a ball on the arm bruised  
it so badly that he cant use it. The captain  
also had his leg struck by a ~~miss~~ spent  
ball but did not hurt him much  
several others were wounded pretty  
badly but I suppose you are not  
acquainted with them besides the captain  
will send a correct list. At the mount<sub>in</sub>

we only lost two killed and two  
wounded. Oliver Sproul and Henry  
Shuman killed. William W. Altimus  
and Robert S. Edelblute wounded.

The rebels are now ~~at~~ across the potomac  
and we are resting on its shores.

I saw Uncle Aballace the day after  
the fight he was, not very well  
but still on duty. Tell Fizzie  
I have received two letters from  
her since I wrote and am ashamed  
to say it. If we stay here I will  
write to her tomorrow but if  
we march I cant tell when  
give my love to all. from  
your affectionate brother

Tom W Dick

So it was very glad to hear of  
the welfare of Cunningham for  
we thought him mortally wounded

Camp near Sharpsburg  
Sept sunday 21st. 1862

Dear Brother

I received your kind letter yesterday evening and was glad indeed to hear from home. I am now seated for the purpose of making a hasty reply. you must not expect a long letter from me this time for I am very tired. And merely write to let you know that I am living and well. I have been in two battles since the date of your letter and escaped without being hurt. I was behind on the day George Bolar spoke of for the simple reason that I was not able to keep up. But I caught up when the Regt halted and have been with it ever since: I tell you we have done some tall marching and fighting too. We fought them at south mountain on sunday and drove them over the mountain

[Page Break]

The next day we continued in pursuit meantime the artillery and cavalry skirmishing with the rear guard. We moved on to near Sharpsburg where the rebels determined to make another ~~here~~ stand. The fighting began a little before dark on Tuesday evening and there was occasional firing during the night; the next morning the ball opened in earnest. our division went into the fight about day break. we were relieved by fresh troops a little before noon. We had only one killed and some six or seven wounded David Overdorf was killed Spencer Stewart was shot through the hand Barclay was struck with a ball on the arm bruised it so badly that he cant use it. The Captain also had his leg struck by a ~~mine~~ spent ball but did not hurt him much seveveral others were wounded pretty badly but I suppose you are not acquainted with them besides the Captain will send a correct list. At the mountain

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we only lost two killed and two wounded Oliver Sproul and Henry Shuman killed. William W Altimus and Robert C Edelblute wounded. The rebels are now ~~at~~ across the potomac and we are resting on its shores. I saw Uncle Wallace the day after the fight he was not very well but still on duty. Tell Lizzie I have received two letters from her since I wrote and am ashamed to say it. If we stay here I will write to her tomorrow but if we march I cant tell when. Give my love to all.

from your affectionate brother

Tom W Dick

[two words illegible] was very glad to hear of the welfare of Cunningham for we thought him mortally wounded

1862?

Camp near Sharpsburg Oct 19<sup>th</sup> 62

Dear Mother

It is the holy sabbath day, and I thought it no desecration of that day to pen you a few lines. I can give very little news for we have been so long in camp that news is scarce. Of late we have passed through some hardfought battles but I have been permitted to pass through it all unharmed and am now in the enjoyment of good health. I don't know what this war is going to come to I am afraid designing politicians will yet ruin our beloved country. It is a sad fact there are men who in the time of our great trouble are willing to barter the nation's welfare

for a little personal, distinction,  
or gain. I suppose you are aware  
that Mr Miller received some sorrowful  
tidings on last sabbath the death of  
his child. Consequently he is not  
with us today but we have preaching  
by the chaplain of the 10th Regiment  
which is lying beside us. But  
he dont preach quite as good sermons  
as our chaplain. But I suppose  
Heer's family dont think much  
of him of late since the affair  
at the church; I understand  
the old gentleman was considera-  
bly miffed about it. I would  
like you would tell me who he  
did mention and what he did  
say. I have not had a letter  
from home for some time and

I believe I have answered all  
the letters I received from that  
quarter I think it will soon  
be my turn to scold. Mr John  
Brandon was here to see us  
I was very glad to see him  
but was very much disappointed  
that Father was not along. I  
am very thankful for the socks  
you sent me they just come  
in the nick of time for  
my old ones were very near  
worn out. Uncle <sup>my</sup> Wallace was  
over to see us a few evenings since  
he is in a hospital about two miles  
and a half from here. He is going  
home soon I believe he has handed  
in his resignation. my love to  
all from your affectionate son

my, my  
J Dick



Camp near Sharpsburg Oct 19th [1862?]

Dear Mother

It is the holy sabbath day and I thought it no desecration of that day to pen you a few lines. I can give very little news for we have been so long in camp that news is scarce. Of late we have passed through some hardfought battles but I have been permitted to pass through it all unharmed and am now in the enjoyment of good health. I dont know what this war is going to come to I am afraid designing politicians will yet ruin our beloved country. It is a sad fact there are men who in the time of our great trouble are willing to barter the nation's welfare

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I believe I have answered all the letters I received from that quarter I think it will soon be my turn to scold. Mr John Brandon was there to see us I was very glad to see him but was very much disappointed that Father was not along. I am very thankful for the socks you sent me they just come in niche of time for my old ones were very very near worn out. Uncle Wallace was over to see us a few evenings since he is in a hospital about two miles and a half from here. He is going home soon I believe he has handed in his resignation. my love to all from your affectionate son

T W Dick