Baltimore 20 Sept. 1863

Dear Sir

Gen. Lee and his officers have been here yesterday and the day before, and have taken to Shepherdstown, Sharpsburg and other places in your neighborhood, which we suppose is their purpose to attack Harper's Ferry, which they have, at those places, been preparing for some days past. Gen. Longstreet's corps, Gen. Hill's Div. and Stuart's cavalry are all that have been seen in this vicinity, &c. Gen. Lee and staff are determined not to leave Maryland without a battle, &c. Gen. Hay, who is also here, has been to the last, &c. Gen. Hill's Div. left Hagerstown at 2 o'clock P.M. Gen. Longstreet's corps at Clear Spring, &c. Gen. Hay, &c. thought it necessary, what was convenient, as they found it necessary, what was convenient, as they had their own carriage, they found that safe & convenient place, for which they started yesterday. We hope you will be able to give us the victory, & we hope for the day.

We have cleared our decks for the enemy, for the time, whether they will attack or not, we know not, but we are in the same, & the spirit of the men, by God! I think they will be fighting, not afraid of anything the enemy can do, & we hope they will be completely. We may lose property & valuable lives, but I am satisfied upon mature reflection, that the power of England

Mr. Thos. Kirkpatrick
Care of
Jas. Kirkpatrick
Chambersburg
Pa.

Baltimore 20 Sept. 1863
Mr. C. Mitchell

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