

Camp Garret

October 26, 1863

Dear Del,

This is sunday (sic) evening and I do not know as I can spend it more profitably
and certainly not more pleasantly than ⁱⁿ writing to the one I think more of than I
do of all the world besides. If all I have written in the past few days go straight
pet, you will certainly hear from me often enough. I received yours of the 19th
last night. It was more than welcome. You seem to think I have been trying to keep
you from knowing the danger I had been in a short time since, but in this you are
mystaken (sic), for though I would not wish to allarm (sic) you I would not omit
any fight I may be in. I wrote you a long letter telling you all about the fight
which it appears you never got nor did you get the next I wrote for in that I also
mentioned the number of shots that were fired at me and that the rebs reported that

they had killed me, but that "couldn't see it." I have written more letters than you have pet but for some reason or other yours come a good deal straighter than mine go. It is true that my horse, or the horse I rode (my horse is too good to wind on a scout) was wounded and that I have a hole about four inches long in the side of my overcoat but did not receive a scratch on my precious person.

As soon as the roads get bad there will be but little scouting done nor will it be as dangerous as it has been for the leaves are now off of the bushes and they can not fire on us without our seeing them and they never run any great risk of being shot. I wrote you that we would not move ^{at} ~~until~~ ¹ this week but yesterday proved to be so fine that we pulled up stakes and to day finds us ^s in our new camp once more among white folks. We have a nice camp one of the finest I ever saw. The only objection I have to it is it will be very cold in ^{the} winter as it high (sic) and unprotected. When I can come to see you I can not tell but not for two or three weeks yet as Capt. Chesny (?) wants to go home this week and will be gone some time. As to our friend Kates (sic) prediction I hardly know what to say though I do not apprehend that there would be much danger, anyhow it shall not prevent my coming. Indeed I am free to acknowledge that a warm embrace from you pet would be inducement enough to carry me a great ways if my duty to my country did not forbid. You will give me several when I come won't you! I do not know what I would not give to see you to night but never mind I will come some time and then we will have a good time won't we? I was sorry to hear of your uncles illness and trust that he may recover. I am afraid that the letters I wrote last week will get in a bunch some where and you will get them all at the same time. If they go as they should you will get one (and up?) for several days, which will be more than a doze (?) of the kind. I feel a great deal better now that I know that there is one that will not forget me even for a day.

But I must say good night pet though it would be long after this time before I would say it if I were with you to night.

Your loving husband Steve