



The U. S. Christian Commission  
sends this as the soldier's messenger to his home.  
Let it hasten to those who wait for tidings.

"Fight the good fight of Faith."

Pear Petersburg July 4<sup>th</sup> 1863  
Dear Dad

Your last kind  
loving letter came this  
evening I was very glad  
to get it - I was not  
feeling very well and it  
done me more good  
than anything else could  
I have been thinking of  
you and your home  
more than usual  
this day of how you are  
getting along, and how  
much happier we would  
be if we could enjoy  
each others society.  
And though I know  
it is useless to reflect  
in this way I can not

help it some times. And  
when I get to thinking  
of the loved ones at home  
I feel perfectly miserable.  
and solemnly promise my  
self, if I get home again I  
will stay. This has been an  
unusually quiet day more like  
Sunday than any other day  
I have seen since I came to  
the army of the Potomac. We  
expected a fight to day but  
there has been less than on  
any previous day since we  
came. The fight may not  
commence for some time  
but when it does the rebels will  
find they have something to  
contend with. Our guns  
are within easy range  
of the city. in one place the  
lines are not more than

ten rods apart. - I was with  
in less than half a mile of  
the city to day. full as near  
as I want to get - till it is  
in our possession I stayed  
untill I found I had  
attracted the attention  
of the reb sharp shooters  
in the houses, and the balls  
began to cut the dirt around  
me, when I found it  
convenient to leave.  
I received a letter from  
Pa yesterday he writes  
that everything was  
going on finely at the  
farm. He says they are  
expecting you mid come  
soon. I wish I could  
be there too, but that - can  
not be at present. I am  
very sorry I could not

send you the money you  
wished soon or than I  
shall be able to. I will  
sell my horse as soon  
as I can find any one  
who has the money to  
pay for him. I can find  
plenty of them who will  
pay for my day but - that  
will not do. If you can  
get what you wish to get  
to the farm with I will  
write to Pa to furnish  
you whatever you want -  
when when you get  
there so you can pay  
what you borrow. Give  
my love to all at home  
and tell them I am coming  
home when Richmond is taken.  
I will write soon again.  
Your loving husband  
Steve