

Near Petersburg

July 4, 1864

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Dear Del,

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 our home more than usual (sic) today, 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 myself , if I get home again I will stay. This has been an unusually (sic) 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 today 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 rebs 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 10 rods apart. I was within less than half a mile of the city today full as near as I want to get till it is in our possession. I stayed untill (sic) 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 recieved (sic) a letter from Pa yesterday he writes that everything was going on fairly at the farm. He says they are expecting you and Annie soon. I wish I could be there to. (sic) but that can not be at present. I am very sorry I could not send you the money you wished s sooner than I shall be able to. I will sell my horse as soon as I find anyone who has the money to pay for him. I can find plenty of them who will pay pay 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 (sic) 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