

Pear Petersburg July 24th 1864

Dear Dr.

I should have written sooner, but - could not - well, as I have been very sick right for the past - three days. I have not been very sick but - sick enough to unfit me for any kind of study I am a good deal better to day and expect to be as well as usual in a day or two. I suppose that by this time you are safely housed in your new home and I hope enjoying yourself as well as your health will permit - which I think will improve by staying in the country a while. I received Annie's letter and will answer it - at the rifle pits when I return. I am writing this at the cook shanty where I have been staying while sick.

We expect to have a big time
 here some of these days how soon
 we do not know but probably
 before long as everything appears
 to be about ready to comm-
 ence. They have mined one
 of the largest of the reb. forts
 in our front. It mounts
 thirty two heavy guns and if
 successfully blown up at the
 time of attack will probably cost
 them their whole line of works.
 I see by the papers that the rebs
 say that it can not be mined
 and make all sort of fun of
 General Hays for not as they call
 him want for attempting it. It was
 finished yesterday and I
 saw the boxes to hold the
 powder carried in this morning.
 They will put eight tons of
 powder under it and if it
 dont upset some of them I
 miss my guess but time will show

I am getting in a hurry to have
Petersburg taken & want to go
to town. I have not seen but
four Ladies since we left
Washington, and one here
would attract more attention
than Gen Grant would. were
they both to ride along the
lines. I know of nothing of
interest to write about - we
do not feel very much like
writing to day and will
try and do better next time.
I give my love to all at home
and keep lots for your self.

Your loving husband
Sting