

Washington, D.C.  
Dec. 19, 1864

Dear Mother

Having some time to myself I thought I would improve it by writing you a few lines to let you know that I am well at present and I hope these few lines will find you enjoying the same great blessing Saturday morning sim nichols met with a accident that caused his death he come in camp early Saturday morning and fell off of the wall which is six feet high down on the brick walk and his revolver which he had in a small pocket in the top of his pants went off entering his side cutting off the artery causing his death in a very short time he could not speak after he was shot his body is to be sent home to Meadville and is on the road now Joseph Waud started with the body this afternoon Simon Nichols leaves a wife and two children the weather is not so fine for these two day past it being inclined to rain some and has taken off our snow and left considerable mud here in the district how does bill get along with his work this weather for it must be very cold up our way this time a year how does Grandmother stand it this winter well I hope how is Bill's family by this time is Lizzy any better she said in her letter that she was taken medicine well I must come to a close give my love to Grand Mother and the rest of the family I wish you all a happy new year and Christmas write soon from your son,

Willard A. Cutter