

January 2 1863
In Camp near Freadricksburgh

Dear wife

it is with plasure that I adress you this plesant morning the day is as fine as in summer and makes us al feal chereful if not happy we have not had any engagement with the rebs yet we do not know the moves that are to be made here as well as you do at home and I think it is best that it should be so there is so maney rumors in camp that I shal not write aney of them I have made up mind to take things as they come and pay no attention to the rumors My health is good at presant there a great meney men sick in the regament out one thousand men that come out with us there is not five hundred able to do duty

we buried Frank Keyes the 27 of last monthe he died of the inflamation of the lungs and the tyfoid feaver it cast a gloom over the hole company he was liked by us all I had a visit from Wm Sprayer the other day he is in good health and feals well but curses this war with all the rest of us we do not like the way things are managed we are ready to fight when it will amount to some thing but the battle at this this place had done a great deal to cool the patriotism of the troops as a jeneral thing the Irish briggade call it Burnsides slawtter yard I have written an answer to all of the letters that I have recieved from you I got yours of 27 last night so you see I am at it this morning answering it Wel who do you surpose staid with me last night it was Jake Stanley he is tough as a buck and od as ever he gave me a large peace of tobacco that made me as happy as a lamb Now we were mustered for pay the last day of dec and hope to get some pay before long if you get hard up you must run your face that is the onley that I know of I can not hurrey them up if I could I would rais the D with them the oneley way is to take it cool In your other letter you asked me if I had recieved aney letters from aney one but you I have not John Worden sent me a paper that is all that I have recieved wy do you ask now there is no use of trying to tel you how mutch I want to see you or how often I think of you there is no use to talk about it there is no prospects of peace at pressent Wel here I am again I have bin on battalion drill since I wrote the above and saw a balloon asention they went up to view the rebble fortifications What do you surpose that we had for Christmas wel we had hard bread and salt pork and for New years we had pork and hard bread So you see that we had a change I would like to go into your pantry a little while it would astonish you to see me eat If I ever live to get home you will not complain of being lonesome again or of sleeping cold for I will lay as close to you as the bark to a tree that is so do you not feel afraid to stay alone nights keep up good courage this is like every thing eltse it must have an end Now kiss the children for me tel them they must be good children Yours A H