154th Regiment N.Y.S. Vol. Alexandria, Va. September 10, 1863

My dearest Lis,

I have been kept in a terrible vexatious state of suspense and anxiety about the fate of my application for leave of absence for some days past and still the papers do not come around yet—but from their long delay I feel quite certain that they will be disapproved.

I am not sick—neither am I well—by a long ways. I am nervous and restless and feel greatly disappointed and could almost cry about it—and would if it would do any good.

If it should turn out that I am right in my impressions about the fate of my papers, you and the children must come down and see me.

I am sure it would be a pleasant trip for you and children, pleasant for me too to see you.

I know I am selfish about this matter but I did wish to see you at home—with our own surroundings—it could be so pleasant for me to be with you there, but I guess I must forego all that pleasure, but you will visit me won't you?

I should have written before but have been waiting from day to day to know exactly about the fate of my papers.

Kisses and love to all.

Affectionately

Henry