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Camp Three Miles from Suffolk Va
April 22nd 1863

My dear Maria

I received a letter from you last eve which is the third I have had which was directed to Washington. It appears you were in Danby and at Uncle David's though you did not say at whose house you were but by your speaking of many I concluded you were there I hope you will enjoy your visit there well as no doubt you will amongst so many of our relatives and kind hearted friends. It would give me much pleasure to enjoy a few days there with you with all those I hold so dear but fate has laid out a different place for me at this time and I must remain in it let it come as it may. Things here with us continue about as they have since we arrived. Our gunboats and batteries keep up almost a continual fire on the woods on the other side of the river and when the Rebs attempt to throw up earthworks and the crack of the sharp shooters Rifle is heard at almost any ^{moment} of the day. Five Co of our regiment went out on picket yesterday and I was in command of them and I will assure you my duties were not very light as I