

Camp near Brandy Station Va.

Jan'y 19<sup>th</sup> 1864

My blessed darling wife

I expect you will scold "a little" because you have been neglected so long, but guess you will take it all back when I tell you why I have not written for the last few days -

I was sent on Picket on the 15<sup>th</sup> as Div officer of the Day and was not relieved until last night. I had to go nine miles to the Picket line. I was so tired when I got in last night that I did not feel like writing, so put it off until today. I hope my turn will not come very often, for I do not like to stay on quite so long. I got your first letter dated the 8<sup>th</sup> the day before I went out, and your next one dated 14<sup>th</sup> when I came in last night. I am so glad to hear you are getting well and that all is so much more