

Camp in the field in front of the  
Enemy - Sunday morning Oct 11<sup>th</sup> 1863

My dear Wife

Here we are just at the  
back of day with the enemy about 3  
miles in our front. We laid up our  
arms last night, and did expect  
an attack before this time, I never  
had a better in my life than I did  
last night, yet we lay here expecting a  
battle to day when many of us that are  
in the pinn of life and health will never  
see another sun rise. Yet there is a cheer-  
-fulness in the whole camp that is as-  
-tonishing. It is wonderful how indifferent  
all become in the field to the dangers  
attendant upon them. This day may  
turn out as all others have when I have  
been when we have expected a battle - pass  
without one - I hope so, however. My work  
is so small that I can't visit with any  
patients, and the smoke blow right