

Camp Near Fredericksburg Va.
June 26th 1862

Friend Bancroft,

I received your kind letter of date June 22^d. and was glad to hear from you once more, but it was with sadness that I perused its contents.

I was not entirely unprepared to hear that Char. was dead, for I had seen so many cases of the Typhoid fever terminal fatal thro, have been forced to ~~the~~ consider a soldier no better than dead who is afflicted with this fatal disease, during the time that I was in the hospital at Alexandria as many as 40 cases of typhoid fever came under my observation and every case resulted fatal. I would rather have the yellow fever, or small pox than the typhoid

I would gladly speak kind words of consolation to you in ~~your~~ your day of sore affliction, but I hardly dare attempt it - it is not for every one to invade the sacred sanctuary of the heart in the hour of trouble and sorrow, with words of sympathy and consolation, it is often better that we ~~see~~ ~~or~~ that we are left alone, for those who would gladly do or say something for us are not capable of comprehending the nature of our sorrow, and their would be sympathy only opens the wounds anew in our hearts and it would have been better had they never been spoken. I am well aware that I am writing to a man who is able to bore the affliction which a kind providence has