

Newport Rhode Island  
Dec 27<sup>th</sup> 1863

My dear Maria

The day is Sunday  
and I will scratch you a few  
lines but I don't feel at all in  
a writing mood, I wonder if you  
ever feel so. I can't tell by your  
letters for they all seem written very  
easy. I am now in my new house  
and find it much more comfortable  
than a tent. There are four are sitting  
here in the room talking on different  
subjects and my mind don't keep  
on one thing long, Col R. is stopping  
with me as his house is not yet  
finished, the Adj. also, I will get  
little board to sketch my house and  
send you in a few days so you can  
see how I am situated here —  
When I wrote you last Col R. and  
part of our men were out on an