

Head Quarters 8th W. Vols
Shibodeaux Sav. May. 19th 1864

My Dear Wife

I have nothing particularly new to write you, that has transpired since my last Letter I am, as you see, still on the line of Rail Road along which so many of our soldiers have found sickness, suffering and death, to be their portion - We are now about 4 miles from the Rail Road and troops are coming every day to strengthen the post - There is a Brig. Genl. here now in command so that I have not so much responsibility as formerly. Gen. Banks has fallen back to Sinsport and there is no telling how soon the rebz. may try to cross the rivers & Lakes, in force, into this district, but as they have so few Boats I think they will not send many men over. I have just come from our Hospital, and it is enough to make one's heart ache to see the young boys³ away from home & friends, stretched out with fever, and other diseases - Some, bear up well and are