

Camp Butler, Fortress Monroe Va.
Wednesday, July 17th 1861.

My Dear Wife :-

I have just received your letter written Sunday & Monday July 14th & 15th. You do not know how such it makes me feel to know that you are so well. I hope your health will be equal to your courage and that you will be as well for the next three months as you have been for the past three. You certainly have to suffer a good deal and to do it entirely alone. How glad I am that Eschard stayed in Bradford this summer. If I did not know that he was there I should feel much more uneasy than I have about you. I got a letter from you also last night - Of late you have written much oftener than I have. Some days when I have not much to do I delay writing in hopes that I shall have time enough and when the time comes that I ought to write I am too busy - I will try and do better in the future. I wish you was as well as I am. I am better than I have been at all before since I left home. The only trouble I now have arises from flea bites. I have just had a salt water bath and feel pretty comfortable. It is now past 9 o'clk. P.M. and three of us are writing while one is still reading letters I had in addition to your letter, one from Lanna and one from