



Nov 23rd 1862

My work or proffers of love to my wife
Camp Grays Offutt's Cross roads Nov 23rd 1862

My dear Daughter:

I thought I could not close the labours of another Sabbath better than writing a letter to you. Speaking of the labours of the Sabbath suggests to my mind that perhaps you would like to know how the sabbath is spent in the army. You would naturally suppose that there so many men are gathered together that it would be no difficult matter to "go to meeting", or rather attend divine worship. But the contrary is the fact. The military man knows no sabbath as a day of worship or rest. All military duties are performed on sabbath as on other days - except when the weather permits of outdoor preaching or have a short sermon some time in the afternoon. I will give you a specimen - and this applies to every day. First - the arms beat at 5 o'clock in the morning for every body to "turn out" as it is called, that is to get up. Then every man's name in ^{the} regiment (except the officers) is called. & every man must answer to his name unless on special duty. Then they all get ready to eat their breakfast, which is ready at 6 o'clock. At 7 the different companies are called out for drill. Here they go through with marching & counter marching - practicing the different ways of handling their guns &c. This lasts two hours. From this time till two o'clock the men have various duties to perform. They get their dinner at 12. At 3 they go out again for Battalion drill, that is the whole regiment go through all the evolutions that would be expected in a battle, and I have not yet lost my interest in seeing this though I see it every day. After this comes "Battalion Parade" This consists of the whole regiment drawn up in a long straight line in 2 rows - one behind the other. This is ^a fine view the men all in their best dress - with two beautiful flags flying. all the