

Camp among the Pines near Culpeper Va. Apr 23, 1864

My dear wife,

I received your kind letter about the 18th in time to read it before dark - and you may be sure that it was a welcome visitor. So long had it been since I had received a letter from you that I was not sure as I should know your hand writing when I did get one. but those families' characters of your own reality recognized - and they had a magic power to lift gloom and dispendency from my anxious heart and filled my soul with gladness - Though your letter contained matters that give me pain and create anxiety yet it was gratifying to have you tell me your troubles. You know how you told them that they find a sympathizing heart. Do not imagine for one moment that I do or ever should feel annoyed by ^{the} your relations of all your trials troubles - aches or pains - No - no - then