

Camp among the Pinos near Culpeper Va Apr 24th 1864

My dear Wife:-

The time is rapidly drawing near for our departure from this. Every thing is veiled in mystery and uncertainty - except it is very certain that we are to move to the front, we all feel that many who are with us to day will in all human probability ~~will~~ be numbered with the dead before another Sabbath dawns upon us, and the thought makes ^{us} feel sad. To think that those who have shared the hardships and trials - the joys and sorrows of our camp life for nearly two years - those who we have come to love and respect - are so soon to be cut off from us never to be with us again, is any thing but pleasant. Is it not a sad thing?

Officers and men all feel it, and this feeling has produced a subdued feeling in us all.

There has been a Sabbath stillness in our camp for days past, Men collect in little knots and with a subdued manner and hushed voices talk of coming events, Officers must on