

1864

South bank of the river P. V^o May 17th

My dear Wife,

I received from you last evening 4 letters dated up to the 15th. Tongue cannot tell how glad I was to hear from you. It had seemed like an age since I had heard a word from home.

I was somewhat surprised that such rumors should be published that we had deserted the Rapa-Namook. We have constantly been on the advance, never falling back one inch. We have had some hard fighting. Last Thursday was the hardest fight of the whole war. Thousands were killed and wounded in that battle -

May 20th We have been on the move for the last three days &