

Camp in the field near Winchester Va Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 1864  
My dear daughter;

I have just received your kind letter of the 8<sup>th</sup>. I must say that if you dont get better ink to write with - you will spoil your old Fathers eyes trying to read your letters. You may be proud that your Father has taken part in many battle in this war, but when your Father has passed from the face of the earth your pride will know no bounds - as you relate the part I have taken to your friends. It is no idle vanity but glorious facts.

I am glad that you had nothing to excite your fears as the day of the election. I had no fears that you would. I presume you all feel very safe with your infantry and cavalry to watch over your safety. It amuses us out here very much to see how bold your valliant defenders are. When we know that 25 old soldiers would scatter them to the four winds they all mean well - and make a good show but it takes experium to make a good soldier. one that will stand in the face of ball