

[Letter has raised imprint: "CROTON"]

Arlington Heights, Va.

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Dear Emmy,

Your letter was remailed from Concord. I was never so glad to get a letter from you in my life. I was afraid you would not love me as well as you have done, but your letter has taken a great load off my mind. It is but a very few days since I wrote you, but I thought I must write a few words, to tell you how thankful I am for your kind letter. We left the barracks where my last letter was written, on Monday last and crossed the Potomac, to this place. We are camped about a mile from Fort Cass, where Elmer is stationed. I have seen him every day since we have been here. Mother has had a note from Joseph. He is a prisnor and is not wounded. The note did not state where he was. Probably he was not allowed to tell. But it is quite likely you have heard of it before this. I am not very well, as I have got a bad cold, but you need not be alarmed, as it is nothing serious.

Fred Shannon, called on me the day we came here. He is quite a smart looking boy, I feel so confused in my head that I do not know what I am writing but you will excuse it, and believe that I mean to say everything that is kind and loving. I will not write much more this time but as long as we stay here you will hear from me very often.

Tell my little darlings that I do not forget them if I do not write to them every time. Tell Annie that I depend on her to take good care of her Mother while I am away, and want her to write to me as often as she can. There I will stop now. I feel as though this was not worth sending to you, but perhaps you will think it is better than nothing. Write often darling, and believe me ever your own loving husband. Leander