

[Letter with raised imprint: "CROTON"]

Near Petersburg Va.

July 4th 1864

My Dear Wife.

Though I wrote to you yesterday, and there is nothing new to write about. still I feel like writing a few words tonight. The towel that you sent came in the mail to-day. It is just such a one as I want, and I need it very much. I was disappointed at not getting a letter, but it is not a great while since I received one, but I want to get one by every mail. Elmers term is out today, but I have not heard from him, since I saw him near cold harbour. If you can learn anything about him I wish you would let me know. You may think it rather strange that I should write to you for information from him, when I have been within three or four miles of him for three weeks, but it is hard to find anyone here. I have not had a letter from mother for a long time. I have written to her twice since she has, and shall write again soon if she don't. This has been the quietest day, I have seen since the campaign commen^{ced}.

There is not a gun to be heard just as present, and there has been less firing than usual to-day. The boys have been expecting that we should have hard fighting on the 4th but I told them that the fighting never came when we expect it. The stillness just at present, is an indication that there is something brewing. Just as likely as any way, they will be firing like blazes. before I get done writing. I wish I could see you tonight. I am thinking [of*] where you have been today. Have you had a pleasant time? and have my little ones enjoyed themselves. You must write often and tell me all that you do.

I dont have anything to write about, but cannot help writing nearly every day, if there is a chance. I know you like to get the letters. ^{and} perhaps think as much of them as though they were interesting Well darling, I have writen enough to let you know that I am alive and well, and thinking of you, and that is about all that is nescessary for this time. I shall write often, whether I have anything to say or not, so I will close now.

Write often darling. Goodnight.

As ever Yours truly

Leander