

Hampstead Jan 24th/63

Darling Husband,

I have commenced in good season this evening to write to you so that I can favor you with a [^]better letter, then I did last week. There - Lewis is coming and I must wait awhile

L. is gone and I will try again. I dont feel like writing now. He always talks in such away that my feelings get all worked up. They have tried they best they could to make me beleive you couldn't come home when your three years are out.

If you enlisted so and so you couldn't come home. They would keep you as long as the war lasted.

Julia had a letter from Joseph and he wrote that he thought you would enlist again and when she read it to me it went all over me; but I told her I didn't beleive you would enlist again without saying anything [^]to me about it. If you should hear what your little Annie is saying you would ~~not~~ think she wasn't very patriotic. She has been [^]in the pantry and got a cold potatato and says, "Cold potato is better than glory" She has refference to a little boy that she read about. He was training and ~~he~~ was hungry and wanted to go home and get some bread and butter and his Captain objected to it, and he said "bread and butter was better than glory"

I wrote this last in the dark. But I agree with the little soldier, though I suppose you dont

Joseph wrote to Julia that he didn't think much of soldiering

I wish you could read that letter he wrote to Julia it is the best and funiest letter I ever heard read

You musn't think strange if I write queer for Lottie and Willie are here, and Annie is reading her Sabbath-school-book and I was going to say Josie is crying, but she is not now, when Annie began to read she listened very attentavely.

I have just read this last to them and Jo says "you shaln't write so, now cross that crying right out"

I suppose you will get Annie's letter before long. She is very anxio^s, to hear what you think of it.

Jo. says I must tell you she is singing now.

I forgot to tell you that I rec^d two letters from you last night. I went to Julia's last Friday morning and came home last night. When I got home I had three letters, two from you and one from Haynes.

I like the idea of your keeping a journal for me very much. Now don't give it up will you darling

I should like to know why you dont want me to know you when you get home. I should know you if I only saw you walk. And I'll bet Annie will know you too. I was just as nervous when I wrote that last letter as I could be. Thats all the excuse I can make for myself. I had a good mind not to send it the next morning and I would not if it had not been for disappointing Annie. I treated the children to a ride the other day the first they had had for a good while. We went to see Clara.

Well I will close now, I ~~am~~ just think you were very kind not to enlist again But if you had I should have said you was very naughty, and I should never have forgiven you. Your own Emmy

