

[Letter has raised imprint: "CROTON"]

Arlington Heights, Va.

April 23^d /64

Dear Emmy,

I have just come in from drill, and have nothing to read, so perhaps can not do better than to write a few words for you to read some time.

Perhaps it may not be necessary, to send you a letter every day, though I have no doubt, you be glad to read them. It is very warm to-day, and quite a dust blowing, which makes it very unpleasant on drill. I got a bad cold when we first came here, and have a bad cough. but otherwise am very well, There is no prospect of going to the front at present. We are in Gen Casey's Division, and are at present on the reserve. I cannot say it would be very pleasant to me, to remain here in Washington on reserve, but when I think of my poor darling, waiting and watching at home, it would go a great ways to reconcile me to it. But I must stop now for dinner is ready.

Sunday Evening

April 25th

I must finish this tonight, as we expect to leave tomorrow, still we may not go at present, There is no knowing anything for certain here.

There is always a hundred stories going in camp but we never know what to believe. I do not feel a bit like writing tonight but if we are going away I wish you to get this as soon as possible. If we do not go away, as soon as we expect, you will get another letter by the next mail I shall write everywhere we go, if there is any kind of chance to send, and I want you to be sure and write often, even if you do not know where we are, for you can direct to the last place that I tell you, and I shall always be likely to get them. But I guess this will not be a very interesting letter, but I have coughed so much, that my head aches very bad, and I do not feel like doing anything, but just to lay my head on your bosom, and close my eyes, and feel perfectly at rest. I do not suppose you care to hear of the movements of the troops.

There is something pretty active afoot here. all the troops here, with the exception of this Brigade, has moved off toward Alexandria. This Brigade. consists of the reenlisted men in the 9th & 11th Me. and the 3^d & 4th N.H. Reg^{ts}. and as I have said we are expecting to go tomorrow, probably, to Alexandria, where we shall take steamers to Fortress Monroe, where we shall join the rest of the Reg^{ts}. Elmer has been over here to-day, and Henry and I went out to walk with him and had a very pleasant time

The men have been bringing in flowers to-day, and they have brought in some very fine bunches of trailing arbutus, the first I ever saw out of N.H. It seemed more like home than anything I have seen here

I hope the Chaplain will go to the city for the mail in the morning, for I [cant*] bear to move without hearing from my dear Emmy. But I must close this now, and will write again the first opportunity. You must keep up good courage, my sweet little wife. Hope, and pray, for for the best, in all things, and in any event, Ill never forget that everything is ordered for the best. There I would write more but Frank is in here and it is

impossible to write anything where he is I have put him out once but he wont stay out. So
good bye for ~~go~~ a little while. Truly yours
Leander