

In Camp near Newbern N.C.

My Dear Wife,

February 1<sup>st</sup> 1863

Your letter dated January 14<sup>th</sup> was rec<sup>d</sup> last Thursday night and was very welcome. I mailed a letter to you the day before. I have written since I came to this place, two letters to my own I have rec<sup>d</sup> from you, and get you complain of not hearing from me. I have written you or five letters to you since I rec<sup>d</sup> the Box and the letter with the five dollars in money. Perhaps you have got them before this. When we write we do not know any thing about where our letters will leave Newbern, but trust they will be sent sometime. I have some news for you this time. Our Pay Master is here. He paid one Regt of our Brigade yesterday and said he would pay us the first of the week. But I hear that we are only to get paid this time up to the first day of November (4 months), which will leave three mo<sup>th</sup> our due. If we had got our six mo<sup>th</sup> Pay I was calculating to send you money enough this time, to pay up for the June and so have that clear, in case any thing should happen to you, (I mean me). But I will send enough, so that you can let your Father have two or three hundred dollars, and then we can finish paying next pay day. How you are afraid I am getting discouraged in you?

I thought you knew me, well enough by this time to know  
that I am not very easily discouraged. I expect to get back  
home safe and sound, and have no notion of letting any of  
those rebellious fellows "wipe me out." I am afraid if you don't  
stop praising me so much, you will spoil me. Mr Washburn  
probably wanted to make Bill feel well, + took that way of doing  
it. You ask how we get along since our Colonel died. We miss  
him very much and I doubt if we ever get another that will suit  
us all as well as he did. The men all love him, and for that  
reason would try their best to please him. I have got as good  
a Company as there is in the Regt, and as large as any except  
Co. C. The Boys in Co. C. want me to be transferred back again as  
soon as I get my Commission as Captain. Last Sunday we were  
inspected by the General and he pronounced my Company, the  
finest looking Co in the Brigade. I have an attack of home  
sickness occasionally and then it seems as though I could  
not live another month without seeing you and the blessed  
Babies. But it don't seem to do any good. I suppose I shall  
have to wait until the war is over and then I will make  
you a long visit + stay until you get tired of me. Will that  
satisfy you? Throp sits on the Bed reading "The Two Lovers"  
He is well and full of you. Now I would like to see you  
and the little ones today. I can't hardly make it seem  
possible that Henry can turn + that Katie has grown so  
much. You must be careful and not let them Grandmother

humor them too much. I am glad you have got your  
teeth out. You ought to have the other out at once. I don't  
know but what I shall send my money and this letter  
in the same envelope. — Throp has quit reading the "Two  
Lovers" and is now reading the Bible. The Expectation has  
left and the Rebels will hear from them, to their sorrow, in a  
few days. I have been on duty 5 days the last week. Once as  
Officer of the day and four days in Command of a Party at  
work building a sort of a Redoubt. So you see I have not  
had much time to spare. This morning the Sergeant Major  
Came in and said I was to be Officer of the day. I told  
him "I would not do it" and put him in mind of the fact  
that I had been on duty for a week back. He put Capt  
Smith on instead of your humble servant. Dinner is ready  
and I will stop — Well Lucia, I have just heard  
that a mail steamer is to start for the north tonight &  
so I will finish this and send it down to the Office at  
once. I guess I won't wait for the money but write again  
when I get it. I have not time yet to get a farewell but shall  
by and by. Let Grand will help me by his influence with  
the General & I have some hopes of seeing you before the  
year passes. Give my love to all the friends and be  
sure and write often. I will send you money enough  
so that you can have your teeth in — —

It looks bad for as young a couple as we are, to both  
be without teeth. When I come home I will have  
some in. Be sure and have Father find out about  
the taxes on our Farm. I want the taxes all paid  
up. And if he can sell the Hay and Grain at a  
reasonable price I should want him to do it and if  
he needs the money he gets for them he can have it +  
give me credit for it. It may be a help to him to meet  
his payments. And when he goes out then I should  
like to have him let the James buy on shares to some good  
responsible man, one that will take good care of it  
and pay it as it should be. It ought to bring us  
\$100. I think. If the fences are well kept up it will cut  
a large amt of Hay besides the Grain land. If Sil Carr would  
take it perhaps he would be a good man. John Norman  
would be as good a man as he could let it to if he would  
take it. I think it would be best to try him. Mcbrin would  
be a good man to.

Write often Darling, certainly once a  
week. Give the Babie for me and tell Harry I want  
him to be a good Boy to his mother, + to take good care  
of his little sister.

Love to all -

Your Affectionate Husband

Driver to Lt Henry J. Pires  
Co. I. 9th Regt  
N.Y.S. Vol.

Newbern

N.C.