

2nd Army Corps Northern Virginia  
3rd Division 4th Brigade, 31th Regt  
of V.C. Troops (May 25, 1863.)

Murdock:

Dear brother: In consideration of a promise I made you on leaving home last month, I must and will endeavor to make good that promise by writing you a letter ever now, and then, I wrote father one on yesterday, but owing to the irregularities of the mail I do much fear that the letter will be delayed for some time.

It is a great pleasure to me to sit down in my tent and commence writing a letter to my relatives at Home.

It oftentimes appears to me that on such occasions I feel as if a conversation was in reality carried on between us.

I well know that you are at present, thronged with business, and the responsibility of a large crop on your hands.

Hence you do not for a moment suppose that anytime spent in writing a letter would in the least add one item to your every day work. Thus I can make due allowance for your silence during such times of trial and vexation.

But the best plan that I ever could adopt was "to have a time for every thing and do every thing in its proper time."

The world was not made in one day, neither was King Solomon's Temple built in so short a time. We are now at a camp which I suppose is the most pleasant of any heretofore occupied by us. It is about one mile from the Richmond and Fredericksburg Rail Road, on the south side of said Road, in a beautiful Oak and Hickory grove where the sun is almost forbid to shine, in consequence of such clusters of trees, surrounded with

I very often think of you, your dear Companion and those dear little children whom the God above has spared amid trials and afflictions, my prayers are for your safe deliverance beyond the tide of warfare, where no trouble and sorrows are known to come, This unholy war, and deathlike struggle may last for years to come, We can not tell, The storm has arisen and it will shake this entire Continent ere it is over, yet believe me, the only safe plan is to put your trust in Him that hath power to kill and make alive. Though you may never see a letter from me again nor hear of where I am gone yet I hope all will be well with me, for I consider that I am engaged in a just cause, Many of us fall on the battle field and no account is never known of what has become of us. Thus many poor soldiers pass into the eternal world, yet we hope to live again in the eternal world. Please remember me to friend Arthur Brown, tell him it would be a source of pleasure for me to hear from him. The health of the troops is generally good, we do not know how soon we may receive marching orders. Remember me to Father, mother, James, Ann and the little boys. Tell Frank that when I come home again we will kill some more birds.

I remain your brother sincerely  
L. M. White

P.S. You can address me as follows.  
L. M. White  
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4<sup>th</sup> Brigade 3<sup>rd</sup> Division  
Richmond Va.