

Gloucester Point,
Yorktown Va.

May 3rd 1844

My darling,

Though I have written to you once to day, it seems as though I could not go to sleep, without saying good night, if no more, I have nothing new to write, except that we expect to move in the morning and if we do I may not find a chance to write again for a day or two, but I shall write up after as I can, I do not think that I shall send this tonight, and I may be able to tell you something about where we are going, so I will not write where we are going, so I will not write much now, I feel easier now that I have got a letter begun. So good night my precious wife I am go-

Transcription:

[Letter has raised imprint: "CROTON"]

Gloucester Point,
Yorktown Va.

May 3^d 1864

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once to day, It seems as though
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send this tonight, and I may be
able to tell you something about
where we are going, so I will not write
much now. I feel easier now that
I have got a letter begun. So good
night my precious wife I am go-
ing to bed and dream of you. Leander

On advanced picket
in the vicinity of Petersburg Va.
Sunday May 8th 1864

Darling wife. I intended to have written
again the next day after writing the
other page, but we broke up camp and
moved on that day, and there has been
no chance to write since. I received
a very mournful letter from you on
the day we started, and have been
wanting to answer it ever since. I do
not wonder that my darling is low
spirited, being left alone without any
husband to take care of her, but do try
my precious, for my sake and the
sake of our darlings to keep up as
good courage as possible, and do
not think that I am sure to be killed
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for the chances are that I shall not be,
but if it should happen otherwise,
you must remember that you

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good courage as possible, and do
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for the chances are that I shall not be,
but if it should happen otherwise,
you must, remember that you
have a great deal to live for still,

and you can always think that your
husband loved you better than all the
world besides. For my part I feel
confident that I shall come back to you
sooner than you expect, and that we
shall be very happy yet. I do not know
as I shall have a chance to send this
at present, but will improve the
first opportunity. I do not feel like
writing to you anything about the coun-
try, or what we are doing. I only care to
convince you of my love, and sym-
pathy with you always. Our duties
will be very hard in this campaign,
as we have to march, and carry every-
thing we have, we have to carry and
~~cook~~ cook our food, besides carrying
our tents and clothing. We have thrown
our tents ^H and clothing ^{away}. We have thrown
away everything we can possibly spare,
and some have thrown all except what
they wear. I do not know but that is

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and you can always think that your husband loved you better than all the world besides. For my part I feel confident that I shall come back to you sooner than you expect, and that we shall be very happy yet. I do not know as I shall have a chance to send this at present, but will improve the first opportunity. I do not feel like writing to you, anything about the county, or what we are doing I only care to convince you of my love, and sympathy with you always. Our duties will be very hard in this campaign as we have to march, and carry everything we have, we have to carry and ~~coont~~ cook our food, besides carrying our tents and clothing. We have thrown away everything we can possibly spare, and some have thrown all except what they wear. I do not know but that is the wisest course, for ~~the~~ we are liable

to lose our knapsacks any day, but we
take everything as easy as possible.

It came the hardest for me to burn
your letters, of anything, but it had to
be done. I shall always keep the last one
till I get another, I suppose we shall
not get letters very regular now, for
a while. There was quite a sharp fight
here yesterday, It commenced on the
left of our line of pickets, about a
mile from here. Our reg^t was not
engaged I believe. (There are about 100 of
us, about a mile in advance, doing the
picket duty) I have not heard the partic-
ulars of the engagement, but you will
learn all about it by the papers

There darling I will not write any
more now, but if there is a chance,
will write again before I mail this,
will write again before I mail this,
if not, good bye for a time. Write
afternoon for your letters are the greatest
blessing that reaches your husband

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There darling I will not write any more now, but if there is a chance, will write again before I mail this if not, good bye for a time. Write often. for your letters are the greatest I blessing that reaches your Husband
L.