

P.S. Henry has gone) On picket
to Fortes Monroe) May 20th / 64

My Darling.

Though I wrote you yesterday
as there is a chance I will begin another
letter to send as soon as there is a
chance. There has been a hard fight
here today, and the enemy has been
driven back. I do not think they will
trouble us any tonight. Last night
they were skirmishing along our front
all night I have not heard the par-
ticulars of the engagement today
Our reg^t was engaged and I hear
has lost considerably. I was sent out
on picket last night, so was not
in "the picket" last night, so was not
in the fight, and the line of pickets
where I was stationed was not attacked,
though the shells and bullets came

Transcription:

[Letter has raised imprint: "CROTON"]

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on picket last night, so, was not
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in where we are considerable fast

We do not expect to be relieved tonight
but we shall be likely to have a more
quiet time than we did last night

It is much pleasanter on picket
than to be in camp, if the enemy
are not too troublesome, I hope we
shall not be relieved for a week

I have been reading over your letter
today, and then tearing them up into
little bits, It almost made me cry
to do it but I cannot carry them with
me. I hope I shall get another soon
I should like to see you tonight and
kiss you once if no more. I suppose
it would be hard to leave you again
but it would be worth all that just to
look at you if I did not speak to
you Well darling, I must go and
you Well darling, I must go and
lie down and try and get a little
sleep for I am in great need of it
so I will just say good night.

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lie down and try and get a little
sleep for I am in great need of it
so I will just say good night,
and God bless darling. Leander

May 22^d

Dear Emma. We were relieved from picket, about midnight after I wrote the first of this, and we went into our tent and laid till morning, which is the longest time I have been in my tent for a long time. I received a dear good letter from you today, dated the 16th inst. it is one of the best letters that I have had. I do not know as I have told you much about where we are, as you do not seem to know where we are. We are in Butters army, as you supposed but as to our getting to Richmond before Grant, is another thing. I do not think it ever was the intention of the Gen. to make any attack on or of the Gen. to make any attack in that place from this side, but merely to break their communication from this line. This we fully

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to within 10 miles of Richmond. Our position was one of great difficulty, as we could not move in any direction without an army on our front and rear, and we did not have force enough to fight both ways without giving the enemy too much advantage. We should have done well enough if it had not made an attack on their intrenchments. Our work is very hard and I can't get time to write without stealing away from my work to do it. The facilities for getting letters, is better here than in any place we have been in. If you direct to postbox number they will come quicker.

Do not let your fears for my safety give you too much uneasiness. I feel that God has been good to us for and it would be wrong to doubt His goodness now. Do take good care of yourself my darling and

May 23rd. I was obliged to leave this letter rather short yesterday, but mean to write a few words if no more, every day, when it is possible.

There has been no fighting here, except some skirmishing, along the picket lines, since the 20th. We are strongly entrenched in our position here, and I do not know whether we shall stay

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There has been no fighting here, except some skirmishing along the picket lines, since the 20". We are strongly entrenched in our position here, and I do not know whether we shall stay here, or try to advance. You must [fragment letter ends here]