

Headquarters

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Army Corps,

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June 23 1864.

Dear Emily

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Your little note concerning your little flirtation with the married man is received; I am glad to see you indulging now because after a certain extent I shall pay you back in your own coin for every offence you may commit in that line; last night was an anxious one again for your poor cuss; I wish I had <sup>it</sup> in my power to maintain that utter indifference to surrounding events that other people seem to have; but if anything goes wrong it worries me exceedingly even if it don't concern me personally; people talk about getting used to fighting and to battles, but I don't see it in that light, and the more experience I have the worse it gets; I believe if I stay any longer

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then next winter my hair will all turn grey; if it were black it would I expect - Hazard was here this evening and sends his respects; his inquiries about you are made in a very cautious manner as if he were treading on forbidden ground and didn't dare to make any direct questions concerning you; the old 2<sup>d</sup> Corps was very badly handled yesterday; they lost a great many prisoners and a battery - They must put fresh steam on the man factories up North; the demand down here for killing purposes is far ahead of the supply; thank God however for this consolation that when the last man is killed the war will be over. This war you know differs from all previous wars in having no object to fight for; it can't be finished until all the men

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on either the one side or the other are killed; both sides are trying to do that as fast as they can because it would be a pity to spin this affair out for 2 or 3 years longer - Civil wars have always <sup>been</sup> the most horrible & cruel during all times past, and they must of necessity be more bloody because the two sides being of the same nation are more evenly matched and greater efforts are therefore necessary to produce any results; I will bet that when this war is over our throes will not be another one for a hundred years to come, not if I can help it any how.

The biggest heroes in this war are the privates in the line - the man with the musket