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Camp 17th U.S. Infy,
near Hokesville Pa.
April 2nd 1864.

Dear Sarahs
Your kind
letter of the 26th was duly
received yesterday. and I
was very much surprised to
learn that none of my letters
had reached you previous to
that date.

Think it is rather poor
encouragement for me to write,
situated as we are.

This is the fourth letter I
have written since I came
from Washington, and I
think some of them must
certainly have reached you
ere this one is written.

It has stormed nearly all of
the time for a week past.
It is raining now quite
hard, which makes me
sometimes wish I was at
home, or in some other
place well known to yourself.

I think I should enjoy my-
self quite as well as here,
However I will not talk
about impossibilities, for it
is not probable to say the
least) that I shall visit
Hillsborough again in a
long time. Indeed I do not
wish to come home again until
I can come with the understand-
ing that I am to stop, for I
can secure you my Dear Girl
it is not so pleasant to my
feelings to part with those
I love, as nearly as life itself.
For me to wish it often repeated

We have been trying to
make our Camp look Chur-
ful, by building Evergreen
fences around it, and making
walks with benches over them
for the Officers streets. but
fix is as they may it is but
a gloomy, desolate place. to
say the best of it; and I for
one shall be glad when the
Order comes to move
"I want to get out of the building"
I have not time to write
more this afternoon but will
try and write again on Sunday

Affectionately
Your Son
James