Camp 11th U.S. Infy.
near Mokesville Va.
April 1st 1864

Dear Sarah,

It is now 11 o'clock P.M. I have just had a good bath, but have taken my pen in hand to write a few lines before retiring for the night.

Received your welcome letter this afternoon and have perused it thoroughly. Have it before me as I write and will try to answer your question to the best of my ability.

In relation to the change of Commanders, we have but very little to say, as a good Soldier obeys Orders without dictating.
Gen. Sykes was a good officer and well thought of by the Officers of his Command. He has been in Command of the 1st Corps a long while, and of course we would have been pleased to have had him remain. But as he is ordered elsewhere and Gen. Warren takes his place, we cheerfully obey his Commands. They are making preparations for an early and a severe Spring Campaign, but I cannot think this Spring will close the War. Although I wish from the bottom of my heart it might, yet I will agree with you this far, that it will be a powerful step towards it, if we are successful, and I pray we may be. It is my opinion the 1st Corps will fight just as long as there are any men left to resist, and you must recollect there are no materials on hand where so powerful a people were subdued in one, two, or even three years. Yet we must be successful sooner or later, but where the End will be, is more than I am able to Comprehend.

I have no idea that we shall be ordered out of the field, although there are a thousand rumors circulating to that effect.

You have guessed rightly dear Sarah in relation to what I wrote you at Washington. Marine Corps is the word. I am very sorry to learn of your Fathar's ill health, but hope when Spring opens he may fully recover.
I am at present in command of the Regiment as Capt. Ben is sick and goes on a Leave tomorrow. I have received the appointment as Field Officer and shall hereafter bear a sword at side.

Nights before last two of our men went out of Camp for some purpose, and so the have not returned we suppose they were captured by Guerrillas.

I heard several shots fired that night about Eleven O'Clock and suppose they were taken at that time.

A few days since there was a party of Guerrillas visited a house near camp and made their boasts that they were going to have our horses. Possibly they may get some.
The Camp is close at hand
and I do not consider it
safe for any one to venture
out of the sight of a Guard,
and well armed.

Dear Sarah, I think I
shall be obliged to come to
New Hampshire if ever
see The Sun Again, for it
has stormed nearly all of
the time since I returned,
and really I have almost
forgotten how it looks.
It is raining now very hard,
but as there never was but
one Storm but what cleared
away, I have faith to believe
this one will in due course
of time, besides I know of
nothing whereby we might
expect a Flood at this time. I
think I will now close.
foul up my letter and relate
but before closing will
bit you good night and
pleasant dreams, also send
a kiss.

Most Affectionately
Jane Brown

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