Camp near Brieppey W.
Sept 27th 1863

Dear Sarah,

When I wrote you last we were expecting to move the next day, but have not moved yet. The order has not been recalled and we are liable to be put in motion any moment, but probabilities are that we will not move for several days. I think I told you I would write again as soon as I found time and as this is the first convenient opportunity intend to improve it.

Will commence by telling you my brief experience of camp life. How I like it?
Friday I was detailed as Officer of the Day, and in addition to those duties went out an Brigade Drill which lasted about three hours. In the Afternoon we had a Night Drill of about the same time. This was the first time I ever went out at Grey Drill. And you can imagine my feelings being Senior Capt. and having Command of a Division. The Officers of the Day is not obliged to appear on drill of any kind and is not asked but I done it, for choice as I wish to learn.

I did not have opportunity to sleep much during the night as you may suppose for that Office must not retire.

Saturday we had Gett. Drill and today we have had a Review & Inspection of the whole Brigade by Col. Green who is now in Command. It has not seemed very much like Staff Drill I can assure. In fact you may believe they know no such days in the Army. Now I will inform you what we live upon. Although I suppose you already know the bill of fare is as follows: Breakfast, Coffee, hard tack, Mutt, and Potatoes when we can get them,

Dinner, the above bill reversed. Supper, we have flour bread which according to my fancy is much better. As I cannot eat the hard tack.
It is impossible to get any thing here by way of letters
as I can assure you I should have done, but that is what the men subsist upon and I ought to be content, but indeed I think they have a better chance at present than myself.

We are having very warm days but the nights are cool. As much as for comfort, still I shall survive it I think and perhaps grow in the mean time, although you may think that an impossibility but you recollect "nothing is impossible."

When do you expect to go to N.Y.? Hope you will have a fine as or better you will. Remember me to all friends especially you Cousin Helen and believe me your Truly

[Signature]
You can write me directing 17th U.S. Infantry to Army Corps Vienna Washington. Don't think we shall leave here for some days, and would be most happy to hear from you and learn the news. How you are prospering what you are doing etc.

Shall not have time to write more this time but before closing will bid you good by and send a kiss.

Affectionately

Truly yours

Pam