

Give my dutiful love to Father  
& Mother, & my undiminished  
regards to all. Tom is finely.  
He has been making a great  
dash with his horsemanship  
today at a grand Review in  
the presence of distinguished  
spectators, ladies &c. His  
horse "slumped" into the treacherous  
ground while he was going on  
the "wing of the wind," & fell  
& rolled over & over; but Tom  
alighted on his feet a light as  
a cat & won great praise  
from all. Ask Aunt Hannah  
if I do not owe her a year's  
interest? Hoping to hear from  
you soon & that you are well  
your affec. brother. Lawrence.

Head Qrs. 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade  
Hatcher's Regt  
March 9<sup>th</sup> 1865

My dear father, I have been back  
about ten days now, and  
just the change very agreeable  
so far as my health is con-  
cerned. I was detained in Phil-  
adelphia by the state of my  
wounds; but that misfortune  
proved a good fortune; for besides  
the warm courtesies & compliments  
I received from every body there,  
I found the services of Dr.  
Pancoast - the most skillful  
surgeon in the United States -  
not only relieved my existing  
disabilities, but put me in the  
way of a more rapid recovery.

You can not imagine how favorable this kind of life is to my health. One would not think me fit to walk a half mile if I was at home; but here I ride as fast & far as the best, and ask no favors. I have no doubt that my recovery will be greatly promoted by my return to the field, and I do not in the least regret my choice.

I shall not feel obliged to lead any more charges, unless it becomes necessary, and hope to escape any further injuries. I have no insane desire to deprive my little family of my protection & support. I assure you. On the contrary I look forward with delight to a speedy return to the happiness and affection of my little home.

No man's ever was dearer or more blest. And to no man could it be a greater sacrifice to leave them far away and face the dangers which in threatening me threaten them ten fold. Still let me say the course I take is not <sup>only</sup> that which honor & manliness prompt, but the one which will prove best for them & for all who belong to me or to whom I belong.

Please understand that my wounds are now doing nicely, and I am encouraged to hope I may not have to leave the field again till we finish the campaign. I was sorry indeed to lose the pleasure of visiting you, but you know I did not set foot out of doors while I was at home.

Inches 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Head Qrs. 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade  
Hatcher's Run  
March 9<sup>th</sup> 1865

My dear Sae,

I have been back about ten days now, and find the change very agreeable so far as my health is concerned. I was detained in Philadelphia by the state of my wounds; but that misfortune proved a good fortune; for besides the warm courtesies and compliments I received from every body there, I found the services of Dr. Pancoast – the most skilful surgeon in the United States – not only relieved my existing disabilities, but put me in the way of a more rapid recovery. You can not imagine how favorable this kind of life is to my health. One would not think me fit to walk a half mile if I was at home; but here I ride as fast & far as the best, and ask no favors. I have no doubt that my recovery will be greatly promoted by my return to the field, and I do not in the least regret my choice. I shall not feel obliged to lead any more charges, unless it becomes necessary, and hope to escape any further injuries. I have no insane desire to deprive my little family of my protection & support I assure you. On the contrary I look forward with delight to a speedy return to the happiness and affection of my little home. No man's ever was dearer or more blest. And to no man could it be a greater sacrifice to leave them far away and face the dangers which in threatening me threaten them tenfold. Still let me say the course I take is not only that which honor & manliness prompt, but the one which will prove best for them & for all who belong to me or to whom I belong.

Please understand that my wounds are now doing finely, and I am encouraged to hope I may not have to leave the field again till we finish the campaign. I was sorry indeed to lose the pleasure of visiting you, but you know I did not set foot out of doors while I was at home. Give my dutiful love to Father & Mother, & my undiminished regards to all. Tom is finely. He has been making a great dash with his horsemanship today at a grand Review in the presence of spectators, ladies &c. His horse "slumped" into the treacherous ground while he was going on the "wings of the mind" & fell & rolled over & over; but Tom alighted on his feet as light as a cat & won great praise from all. Ask Aunt Hannah if I do not owe her a years interest? Hoping I hear from you soon & that you are well.

Your afft. brother,

Lawrence