

Camp of the 113th [115th?] NY Inf.
Near Petersburg Va
Sept 19th [1864]*

My Dear Cousin

Yours of the 17th Inst is just received – only two days from the day it was written. I am glad that we can hear from each other so often. This is the advantage this department has over that of the South. I recd.. a paper last evening and one this. both mailed at North Shore but as I do not know whether they came from you or someone else, I do not exactly know who to thank. but rest assured of one thing. They are truly appreciated whoever they came from and very thankfully received.

I recd.. that letter you “took a notion” to write, but as I had written you the day before thought I would not answer it immediately. I received a letter from Roger to night. He is near Harper's Ferry and say they have to change their position quite often. Tell Aunt Lottie that I should be very happy to accept her invitation and comply with her request to “bring you along,” but that it takes “two to make a bargain.” I suppose I shall never hear the last of going to Jerusalem. It is better to say “good by” than . farewell. I would like to have been with you Sunday. And have gone to Church. I filled the two sheets of paper. (eight pages) I was writing on to Helen, and sent it. Have not received and answer , but expect to soon. I think she will not scold me much, for she likes to get long letters. I thought I told you about that Ferry ticket in my last letter, but from what you write, suppose, it slipped my mind at the time. Well it was all right passed without a comment, - No questions asked. So if you have the other. You can pass over to Jersey City any time you please. Yes I think I did well not to stop at Newark. I had plenty of room in the cars, and I did not have to stand up but would be willing to do so again for the sake of another, Could I have the pleasure of going to Brunswick again with you. I think it would be pleasanter than lying in “rifle huts” three days and nights out of every six. We have We first returned from them this evening. Capt cant be satisfied unless I am with him all the time. I have not taken a gun yet, and there is no necessity for me going to the front until I do but the Capt says the boys will be better satisfied if I go. (He means himself.) It is a great consolation to feel that those we love are praying for us, and I pray that God will answer those prayers in mercy and not in wrath and that his blessing may rest upon the petitioners. I had some difficulty in finding my Regt because I did not know what Division or brigade they were in. So it will be better for you to direct as I directed you. From your loving Cousin L.M. Loper – 3rd Bri- 2nd Div 10th Corps Via Fort Monroe Va

*No year on this letter. Date can be verified by content of letter written Sept 21st 1864. That letter is marked with the full date.