

Camp of the 115th N.Y. Inft  
Near Petersburg Va  
Sept 21st 1864

Cousin Juliett

There is one thing I forgot to mention in my last to you so for fear I may forget again, and the thought not return in season to be of any benefit I write this soon. I am well aware too. that when you peruse this, you will think strange that I do not write to Uncle Charles instead of you. My reply to this is. That I prefer writing to those I have reason to believe are at home rather than to those whome I know are absent. I wrote to Uncle requesting him to order a pair of boots for me. Very soon after. I concluded that a small hatchet – (one that I can carry in my waist belt.) would be very convenient, and intended to ask you to mention it to him. but forgot until now. So I now wish you would be so kind as to say to Uncle. that I would like very much to have him send me such a hatchet. as I have described. Send it when he does the boots –I would like one that I can draw nails with and want it sharpened . for I can't find any thing here to sharpen my knife even. Now that the business part of my letter is finished. I will devote the remainder of this sheet to something that may be more interesting.

I recd.. a letter from Josie. last evening, expect one from home this. Last evening the "Rebs" opened upon us with "Shot and Shell" and kept it up nearly all night. This morning our batteries opened on them. and such a noise. My! it waked me so suddenly that I thought we were attacked. and you better believe. I wasn't long getting out of bed. It lasted about an hour. Since that time there has been but little firing. It was rumored in Camp this afternoon. that we were under "Marching orders" – bound the rumor says. for Washington, but if there is any thing in the rumor. I think it means we are going to another battle field . but we must not borrow trouble before it comes. If Aunt Lottie is still at Staten Island. I wish to be kindly remembered to her as also to all others whom it may concern – Yours Affectionately, L. M. Loper