

Camp near Falmouth N. Jan 20<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Wife and Boys

Young of the 15<sup>th</sup> with me to hand this  
morning and I was glad to here from  
you once more for it had bin all most  
3 weeks since I had heard from you and  
that is a long time to me it seemed  
all most like an age as you are  
constantly in my thoughts by night  
as well as by day I think of home  
and dream of you and it is strang  
that I never dream of the children  
they are in my mind all day but  
in dream land it is my Katy and  
her alone but it is a consolation  
to visit in dream land if we can  
in no other way you say Dr M  
has not said any thing more about  
the house well I guess that is his  
best way for I was getting all most  
desperate about it and I shall  
be thankfull if he will be quiet  
untill you get out of his I shall  
you say Dennis is up to his Grand Ma  
how can you let him go out of your  
sight I guess if I was there I would <sup>se</sup> give  
him till he would haloo once at  
least and then to far that  
matter if you might come in for  
at least one share if I know  
any self you say Erin said  
he would take my place if I  
would come home God Bless him  
it brot the tear to my eye to

read that tell him his Pa is  
proud of his brave boy and hope  
he is as good as he is brave but  
as he cannot take Pa's place here  
he must do the best he can  
at home till I come I am very  
glad of his letter and think  
he done well and he must  
try again my Dear Wife I cannot  
fear the battle when such little  
ones as Benny Vallentege to go  
in with me his little form will  
keep off the leaden hail from  
his Father but I must stop for  
am getting as babies as a  
child altho a warrior. I presume  
you have got that order before  
this time as I sent it some  
time ago our letters are a great  
while coming and going but  
the most of them come at last.  
we expect our pay every day and  
as soon as we get it you shall  
know all about it if you can  
get the house so as to go into it  
I think it would be the best  
way but I will not dictate to  
you about it I did not have a  
very hard time with the Onampy  
I was as careful as I could be in  
such a place as this and am on  
duty again altho rather weak yet  
gaining slowly and shall soon be  
all rite again if nothing hapens  
but I must take another piece of paper