

After writing and mailing my letter I received your letter of the first of Nov, and was glad to hear that you wer all well & especially that nabby was getting smart again

you ask me what I think about Cassius buying a colt. if he wishes to be benefited by going to school I think the least he has to do with horses the better but if he had rather break colts just give up the school & attend to that but I think he had better give up the colt till spring & devote his whole time this winter to his studies

I should like to have the censor sent but it must be prepaid (postage) or it will not come through if you do not want the advertiser pay it up and stop it

No more at present

J. C. G.

[John C. Griswold]

Arkwright May the 5 1863

Dear Husban

it is with trembling hand & aching heart that I attempt to wright a few lines to you not knowing whether you ever will receive it or not expecting you are in a verry dangerous place we hear you are not held as reserve no you are in advance which it seames to me you are in more danger than before but all I can do is to weep & Pray for your safty it seames that the Lord must spair you keep up good courage & trust in providence put your whole trust in him who is able to save & be verry carfull & not run any great risk if I could share the danger with you it seames I could stand it better but I know not I dare not indulge in the thought one moment that you will never com home I can not tell you my feelings with the pen you can better immagine what they are than I can tell you you do not tell me what your feelings are about coming home whether you think you ever will come or not or whether you want to com but I know you would like to be with your family & enjoy the comforts of home if you knew how anxious I am to hear from you you would drop a few lines to me if it was posable but I do not know as it is when you are on the moove then is the time that I feel the most anxiety about you to think you are in battle & then not to hear from you it seames some of the time I can not endure it but I suppose it is imposable for you to send letters at all times so I lay no blame to you knowing you will remember us as often as you can do not know as this will ever reach you but hope it will if you can get letters from home it will be a comfort to me I was surprised to hear your Captain had rezind & com home but I do not blame him but I am some what selfish I supose for I wish it had of been you instead of him & then to think he had been home on a furlow & got some new cloths & sayd he should stay as long as you did I should like to know what was the trouble & what made him com home he tells some he has got a furlow of 4 months he thought the summer climate would not agree with him but we do not believe he has got a furlow but rezind

May the 7 not haveing a chance to send to the office for 2 or 3 days on acount of the stormy wether it has rained 3 days & snowd very little is quite cold but is clearing up now & things look quite promising we have had 2 weeks of verry good wether to do spring work amost every body has sowed their wheet I am up to Ells this week staid to Georges last week & straitend around my things some have made a vest for Hun this week have sewed so stidy I have got a head ache to day feel quite down for a few days not hearing any thing from you for so long & expecting you are in battel that I have cried my eyes amost out of my head but it is become allmost second nature for me to cry but being around amonst folks so much I have to put a double command over my feelings if I should give way to my feelings I do not know what would become of me Cassius came up to see me a week ago last Sunday & when he started to go back he went off a crying so you may judg what my trouble is but no more of this for I do not want to say any thing to make you feel bad for you have enough to contend with now I do not want you to worry about us for the people are verry good to us yet but oh how we do want you to come home but what will we do if anything should happen that you should not come oh my heart sinks within me to think of it if we never meet on earth may we meet in heaven whare our beloved Child is may God bless you & spair you to return to your wife & child once more Sabrina wanted I should wright to you & ask you if you knew whare the monney was sent to that was sent for the boys those that signed the paper to have their monney sent home she is afraid Orin will not do his buissines right he has not sent any monney home yet I guess she wants you to wright to me about it if you know any thing about it but I must close have not any news to wright Maryann is not much better yet but we are in hopes she will get along soon do wright as soon as you can I have not sayd half I would like to say to you for I can not tell you my feelings with the pen I hope this will find you well & doing well I should think you would want some new boots if you do when you get whare we can send you any thing just let me know what you want & you shall have it how are your stockings I send you my love once more & a kiss

Susan Griswold

Arkwright June the 3 1863

Dear Husban

I have just received your letter & I feel to say thank God for his goodness in spairing you to wright to me wonce more I feel to day the deads alive we have mournd you as dead the news came to me 3 weeks ago last Friday Eavning that you was Killed & you may judg how I felt oh my heart was allmost broke I cald on god to take me to it seamd that I could not live but the Lord put it into my heart that I must live for the sake of my child but oh the agony of mind that I past through for about a week I can not describe to you you can better immagine than I can tell you in about a week some of the boys wrote home & they sayd you was wounded verry bad & they did not know what had become of you whether you wer dead or a Prisoner then it seamd I could not stand it I thought it would make me sick some of the time I was so weak I could hardly walk acroast the house but thank the Lord that your living if I could of got whear you was I should of don so or if their had of been any posable chance for any body to com down their whear you was I think that some body would of come but as it has turned out probaly it is best that they did not start to come but if I had of had the means to brought me their & of hierd some body to come with me I should have don so but I will tell you somthing about your company I have received 3 letters from Dana Horton & 2 from Dell Ames & 1 from the Col. Loomis the Col told me they had heard from my Husban by way of flag of truce & was you severly wounded & a prisoner but he thought you would recover Dana sayd he heard from you by one of his men that was wounded & sent back to their Camp hospital sayd he staid with you one night he sayd you was sent to Richmond & then as soon as they heard from the boys that was paroled they Dana & Dell wrote to me but I did not feel satisfide of what your condishen was some of the boys would wright home you was not wounded verry bad nothing but a flesh wound & some thought you soon would be able to come back their soon but Dana thought you would not be able to do duty for some time theirfore he thought you would come home so his letters got up some hope in my mind that I should see you once more if it is posable for you to come home you must do so for I can not have it so that you must stay down their & suffer as I cannot do any thing for you nor see you if you can not come home do let me come down their & see you once more oh have I not sufferd enough on account of this war I feel there is not much happiness on earth must I suffer on still more & more on acount of this ware oh what have I don that I must suffer so much but if you can come home that will pay me for all the suffering this anxiety of mind is so hard to bear it makes my heart ache to think of the misserys all over this contry on account of this war the tears that was shed after that battle it was a verry sollem time hear their was so many missing some 23 or 24 I do not know how many their was taken prisoners I think that some of the missing came to camp after they got back but are not certain Dana writes one of their wounded men has died from the efects of his wounds Richard O Neil of Jamestown died May 21 allso Albert Goulding died May 18th the rest of the boys are well & in a great deal better spirits than at first when they got back to camp they all thought it verry lonesome with so many of their comrads gon there is 5 that they have not heard from they suppose them dead William J Allen Albert Bemis Isac Burley Edward Huntington Thomas T. Jones this is a list that Dana gave me when I think whear you was I think it was nothing but the hand of providence that saved you but thank kind providence for his goodness

Susan Griswold to John C. Griswold, June 3, 1863, continued.

I have sad news to wright to you if you come home their will be one the less to welcom you back one that would been greatly rejoist to seen you back again death has been this way & taken our dear beloved Sister Mary Ann Griswold that family is bereft of one of the best of mothers they feel verry bad they take it verry hard Ell looks verry bad he is verry poor & I think he feels his loss deeply & so do we all but our loss is her gain I was up to Ells when the news came you was killd I think it made her worse I did not stay long came away Monday went back Tuesday to see her did not see her again alive she died the next week a Thursday after I saw her I went up their the day after she died & staid till the next Saturday then came over to Georges we hear now could not get any chance to send to the office over their so I thought I could not stay any longer they haited to have me come away I thought my own trouble so great that it was all I could bear but the Lord is better to me than all my fears the rest of our friends are well as usual some of them I have not seen in a great while Cassius is to work to Mr Mathews after he heard from you he thought he could not stay to Mr Conden any longer & I thought it would seam better to have him whear I could see him oftener he thinks it is rather a hard life to live he thinks his Pa will come home soon I saw him last night he was feeling quite cheerfull for he has felt this week or two that you would come home if you have not got any monney to fetch you home let me know & I will send you some I have got 30 dollars yet & can have the rest any time I want it that is 20 dollars Ell has used but if it is wanted he will get it any time you have not got any more pay & do not wait for that if you are able to come just let me know & how much you want & you shall have it amediatly do not think of ever going back again if you can get away but I will be so verry thankfull if you can come home at all I should like to know just how you are & if you wrote that letter it does not look much like your wrighting if your arm is not well enough so you can wright I should like to know & if you can wright but I am thankfull to hear from you atall do come as soon as you can if you can not com do let me know for I shall sertainly come down their for I can not stand it it is to bad to think of your being away afar whear I can not do anything for you nor see you it is cruel but I supose I must stand it what cannot be cured must be endured it would of been sweet to me to found rest in the grave so I felt some of the time if the Lord had of heard my cryes concurring myself if you had come home you would off not met your wife on earth but the Lord has seen fit to spair us both so far & my continual prayr is Lord spair my dear Husban to return to his family if you should be any worce or any thing should happen let me know right off teligraph to us or have it don if I could see you it seames it would be the happyest moments of my life but I some times am fearfull that I never shall have that privaledge but I live in hopes hope keeps the heart whole haint you staid their long enough it is more than you ought to do for your contry I think your family ought to come in your affections first I guess it is time for me to stop wrighting you will get all tierd out reading this it is wrighten so poor & spelt poor probably many words is not spelt right but it is going to my Dear Husban

they have all gon to bed so I think it is best for me to follow suit it seames as if I could not wait long without seeing you I send a kiss to you you know their never was a womman loved her man better than I do you So good Eavning send after some monney if you stand in the least need of any for I am waiting & wanting to do something for you I will close for this time do wright as soon as you get this or have some one & let me know how you are

Susan Griswold

Pomfort June the 12 1863

Dear Husban

I received yours of the 8 about an houre ago & oh how glad to hear from you again it seamed as if I could not wait so long I have sent to the office every day this week expecting to get a letter but thank god one has come at last but oh how much rather would I see the wrighter or the one that caused it wrote can I wait much longer I am afraid you will keep puting me off till you cant come home or you get well enough to go back to your company can you be so crull as not to come home or let me come & see you perhaps I am a little to fast I will say if you can posably come why cant you rezine you must. how can you stay their & suffer so much & keep your Wife & child inn such continual anxiety about the dearest of Husban & Fathers oh do come home it is more than I think I can stand oh dear oh dear it is so hard this war oh my god when will this war end this awfull misery seace you say you are verry anxious to go to your company & shall do so I fear you are more anxious to go their than to come home you will say I am a little jealous & I think I have reason to be if you felt as I do you would start for home as soon as you could but if I could only know you would come home I should feel better than I do but I hope fore the best how hard to have our loved ones sick & wounded away so far from us whear we can not see them nor do any thing for them oh how can I endure it but all we can do is to commend them to a mercifull God how hard my lot seames to be & yours to but thanks to a mercifull God that you are still living

you do not say any think about whether you want any monney or not or whether you think you will if you need any do let me know you know we would be glad to do any thing Cassius sayd just as soon as we got your first letter that he should start down there to see you but I told him he had better wait till we got another letter from you then I thought we should know whether you was coming or not but I supose it takes some time to find out any thing their it takes a great while to do a little but I hope the next we hear from you you will be on the way home or ready to start I guess I have sayd enough about that if you do not come before long I shall start down their & hunt you up whether you want me or not the friends are all well as usual I went over to Lewises last Saturday staid all night they wanted I should stay a spell but I thought I could not they wer well then Lewis is looking rather poor for him their has been a minesteirell meeting hear this week commenced Wendesday had preaching in the eavning & then again Thursday afternoon & eavning I came out to meeting Thursday came home with Emily Baly am their to night haveing a verry good visit it would be better if you was hear to enjoy it with us Emily sends her respects to you says tell you are to good a man to be down their to suffer so Tom says he had rather all the men inn our town had of gon than you he says you are a speshiel friend of his you have many warm friends that will be verry glad to welcom you back how can we wait we received a letter from Deal to night they are all well she says she is a going to wright to you & I hope she will if you go to the Company tell Dana Horton that I never shall forget his kindness to me & Dell Ames I feel a great interest in the Soilder my health is quite good now been feeling quite miserable for a few days but am better now do not be afraid to have me come down their for fear I can not stand it for I know I can stand it but I had a great deal rather you would come home oh how I wish I was a keeping house but there is a plenty of doors open to receive you I must close for the want of room wright as soon as you get this do not wait a minit tell your wrighter I thank him for his kindness love to you

Susan Gr

I have just received a few lines you wrote when in Libby Prison it was maild June the 8th do not know but I have told you that I sent a few lines to you when you was in Richmon if not I will tell you now we sent it 3 weeks ago probaly you never got it

Head-quarters Department of the Cumberland,
Chattanooga April 28th 1864

Special Field Orders }
No. 119

Extract.

1. The Resignations of the following names Officers are accepted, to take effect from this date.

Captain John C. Griswold 154th New York Infty Vols
Cause Disability from wounds received in battle
Physically suitable for the Veteran Reserve Corps

C.O. 154th N.Y.V.I.

By command of Major-General Thomas,

Wm D. Whipple
Assistant Adjutant General.