

At home Thursday Eve
Leon, 29th of Sept 1864

Dear Edgar,

Your most kind and welcome letter of Sept. 15th reached me a short time ago and was read with great pleasure. I was happy to hear you were well and pleasantly situated with a plenty to eat.

It is quite late for children to be up, but I thought as all around was so still I would spend a few moments in writing. Don't you think when all is still and beautiful, when the toils and cares of the day are ended every one around you are enjoying them selves in the land of dreams, 'tis sweet to steal away and spend an hour in some versing with some far away friend; 'Tis the hour I pray above all others when I hold the friend as one quite dear.

The night is dark and stormy and the roads are very muddy. I went up to see Eunice to day & stayed all day she was some better when I came away. Celestid Davison is dead. She had the typhoid fever and diptheria (sic) together. The rest of the sick are getting smart. your folks are quite well again. Nevil did not get home the day I wrote you last, as I said he would. He was taken sick with the fever when he got to Elmira and was unable to come any farther then, and to day he came. I suppose he feels happy to think he is free again. I hope all of our soldiers will be free in a little while, then you couldn't enlist for three years longer ! wouldn't that be gay ?

A dear, I am getting dreadful sleepy. I hardly think I can sit up as late as when you used to know me, but I am not going to tell you how late. I sit up when I have a bean so I will say no more about it for fear I shall. I hope you will come home for I should like to see how you look (of course) and if being a soldier has made you any better boy than you used to be. Now I must bid you good night and pleasant dreams, before I fall asleep.

Exit

Friday Evening

I will now attempt to finish this letter, that it may go out to morrow morning. I intended to have finished it this morning but Mrs Valant came here and I was obliged to lay it by. You must have had a pleasant trip when you went with those women & children to meet their friends, if I had been a boy I doubt not, but should have envied you your pleasure. Guess I'd better enlist, and go from this drill palace, yet it is not drill for those who like the company and their style of amusement. There are only a few young gentlemen here and among that few hardly one who knows enough to behave himself in a lady's company.