

Camp near Brandytation Va. [Brandy Station, Virginia]

April 10<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Wife [Hannah J. Holt]

I seat myself this  
Sabbath morning to write you afew  
lines to let you know how I  
get along I am well as usual  
this morning & hope these few  
lines will finde you all well  
I haven't much news to write  
but know you are anxious  
to hear from me at any time  
so I will not have you disappointed  
it is quite pleasant today it  
raind all day yesterday& all  
night we have agooded of rain  
nowadays the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps was to  
of been Reviewed by Gen Grant [General Ulysses S. Grant]  
yesterday but on account of  
the rain it was put off till  
amore suitable day our Brigade

Was Reviewed by our new Division

Commander Gen Barlow [Brigadier (later Major) General Francis Channing Barlow] on Friday

last we had anice day & every  
thing went off splendid it would  
be quite aright for you to see  
our Corps out on Review. the  
Sutlers are all ordered to the rear  
they have got to be out side  
the lines the 16<sup>th</sup> of April we  
have got orders to pack all extra  
bagage so the prospect is that  
we will move as soon as the  
weather & roads will permit I  
expect we will go towards Richmond [Richmond, Virginia]  
Richmond must fall that will be  
the first thing this spring to  
take Richmond I feel inhopes this  
summer will winde up the  
war such an army as we have  
must accomplish something  
every thing will soon be in perfect  
order then the Johny rebs must  
git up & dust for the Yankies

will surely be after them

I haven't heard from Byron [Private Byron Holt, Square's older brother] since  
the 5<sup>th</sup> of this month he thought  
he was some better then

Done (scratched out) Dear Wife it is almost six-  
-teen months since I saw you  
O how glad I will be when I can  
be with you once more, be of  
good cher trust in the Lord &  
I trust we will come out all  
right was it not for the hope  
of some day meeting my loved  
ones I should be verry unhappy  
but I thank God that circumstances  
are as favorable with us as they  
are I feel that all things will  
work together for our good  
remember Dear Wife that I remain  
your true & affectionate Husband  
praying that we may soon be  
united to enjoy eachothers friend  
-ship whilst on earth we stay  
O that I could only step in & see

my loved ones to day but with  
with patients I will wait trusting  
that all will be well by & by  
I suppose Gustavus [Gustavus A. Holt, Square's older brother] will be looking  
for a letter soon well I must  
answer his in aday or two I cant  
think of much to write to day  
well I must close for this time  
I hope you will excuse this poor  
letter I will write often as I can  
you do the same

Remember me to all our friends  
from your affectionate  
Husband S. Holt