

Camp near Brandy Station [Brandy Station, Virginia]

Jan 28th 64

Dear wife [Hannah J. Holt] I seat myself
this evening to write you
afew lines in answer to yours
of the 22 which I received today
I was glad to hear from you
but sorry little Daughter [Emma Holt] has
the ague I hope she will not
have much of it . I came in
from picket to day we had
averry pleasant time to day
has been the warmest day
I ever saw in Jan I think
we can walk on top of the ground
once more the mud is just
baking right up Byron [Private Byron Holt, Square's older brother] was
over here to day we are well as usual
O how pleasant it is here now
day the weather is so fine
well Hannah I had some sausage

and pie cake & c for supper
Geo Chalker [Private George N. Chalker] & E Godley [Private Edward B. Godley]
joined the Co Tuesday night
& Lieut Ives [Lieutenant (later Major) Lucius H. Ives] came with them
John brought quite a lot of
things to his Brothers Wife in my
tent so I fare pretty well just
now well if I get some things
I can divide with them,
we saw a few rebs this time on
picket night just before
Sunset 4 or 5 rode out in plain
sight of us my post was
right on the bank of the
River [The Rappahannock River] at Kellys ford the rebs
was on the south side of
the river they was there trying
to pick up some of our scouts
that tha (scratched out) had been over there
way I will try & make use of
that Tabaeu if you send it

[This may only be half the letter; the third and fourth pages appear to be missing]