

Camp Suffolk Va. June 18<sup>th</sup> 63

Dear Parents [Silas Holt & Emily Holt] Wife [Hannah J. Holt] & Friends  
at home I take my pen in hand  
to write you a few lines & a few it  
will be to I am well with the excep  
tion I am completely exhausted with  
the march we have had we got to  
camp to day at two OC [o'clock] after marching  
about 20 miles we have been marched  
all most to death for the last  
week Byron [Private Byron Holt, Square's older brother] is in the Hospital  
yet he is not able to write I hardly  
know what ails him he seems  
to have some fever & then he  
is so lame with the rheumatism  
he wanted I should write a few  
lines to Minerva [Minerva Felton, wife of Byron Holt] but as I have but  
little time & I am so tired I hope  
you will all excuse me & all  
read this pleas let Minerva know  
as soon as possible well I suppose  
you wonder why I have no more  
time I will tell you we have

marching orders again I sup[ose]  
we will be off betwene this &  
morning we have had to cook  
3 days rations this afternoon  
we are going North maybe to Pa.  
where the rebs are making such  
arade Byron will be taken to  
some general Hospital at  
Portsmouth [Portsmouth, Virginia] or Washington [Washington, D.C.] or  
some xx (scratched out) other place I cant tell  
where Isaih Dakin [Private Isaiah Dakin] is going with  
him & one or two others from Co B  
it is so dark I cant see anymore  
I will try & write a little more this  
evening I (scratched out) Hannah I received yours  
& Olives of the 7<sup>th</sup> yesterday & was  
as ever glad to hear from you  
I also got one from Mary [Mary E. Hopkins, Square's niece] while we  
was out we have orders to have every  
thing packed except our tents &  
blankets so we can be ready  
any time of night I will write as  
soon as I have an oportunity  
excuse me this time I think you  
g (scratched out) would if you kew [knew] how I felt  
good bye for this time yours &cc

let Minerva know  
how Byron is

S. Holt