

Camp Upton
Newport News V.A. Dec 29th 1863

Dear Sister

it is so near that I will commence this by wishing you and all the rest of the family a happy new year

I hardly know what to write that will be interesting to you I believe it is the first time that I ever tried to write a letter with this heading but there must be a first time for everything and so here goes.

I will just say here that I am well and hope these few lines will find you all enjoying the same great blessing for health is one of our greatest blessings.

I have got the blues to night and have had them these two or three days the recruiting is going on pretty lively out here and I

am half a mind to go in a second
time by so doing I can get a parlor
home of thirty days and what to
do I don't know I want to come
home but enough but then the three
years after sticks rather hard
whether I can ~~eat~~ swallow it or
not a few more days will decide
for if it is done at all it has to
be done between now and the fifth
of next month so perhaps the next
time you hear from me I may
be a veteran volunteer and I
may not I can't tell to night
that is certain.

I have been looking for a letter
from Mother till my eyes are
growing dim and I am worrying for
fear that she is sick and not able
to write but I hope that is not the
case.

I had a letter from Leicester the
other day they wrote that my children

were all well then though Ada had
been sick and had the doctor she is
not healthy like the others nor has
not been for a year her Mother used
to write me about her I fear she is
rather consumptive from what I hear
though I hope she may outgrow it

But it is getting near noon
call and I must close this time
hoping the next time I try to write
to you I shall have something to write
about.

Please give my love to Father
and Mother and Brothers and
receive a large share yourself

Please excuse poor writing and
answer soon and believe me your
Brother

Geo. W. Gould.