

EMILY EWING TO NAN

July the 21st 1864

Dear Sister Nancy i sit down this after noon to pen you a few lines to let you know that we are all well and so is all the frinds as far as i know well Nan i do not call this an answer to the letter you sent me for it is so long since i got it that i do not know how to answer it, but you must excuse me for not writing sooner for i have to write 3 letters a week to Andy and one to each of my brothers besides to others so you see i have to write a letter most every day to keep them all going. the last letter i got from Andy was dated the 11th and he was at Washington and with a verry sore hand he thought he would loose one of his fingers on his left hand he said his name had been taken to be transfered to Michigan and he thought as soon as he got to detroit he would get a furlow and come home i look for a letter or him to night well nan i live all alone now for Mother Started the 5 day of this month to Anaplis MD to see Henry She got there in 3 days and found Henry well and Harty but she has seen a great many things to excite her since she got there for there is thousands of wounded soldiers sent there wounded in every form and shape Henry is ward Master in the Hospital and expects to stay there all summer he says he does wish that Andy and Mack could be sent there for he could get them a good position that they could stay all summer well nan the last we heard from Mack was dated the 12 and he was well and doing duty in the Hospital near the front the last we Heard from Dewit was Dated the 11th and he was not well for he was hardly able to write he is afflicted with the cronic Diaree a good deal and so is Andy well Nan the folks is all buisy with their Harvest it cost me just 2 dolers an acres to get my wh[e]at cut and i have not got it stacked yet but Lean says he will stackit for me but they are not quite done cuting theirs yet for you know they had a big harvest and i tell you they Mis Mack this year but i am afraid before long we will mis more besides Mack and Andy and Dewit for Some one will have to go and fill up this call but them that is left at home is no better than our men and so let them all Share alike i say well Nan Man Brown was severly wounded on the 17th and he got to Philadelpha and sent for Elen to come and see him and she has gon and wrote back that he cannot live he was wounded in the hips poor man all his mony will do him no good Nan i think we had aught to be thankfull that our dear Husbins escaped as well as they did on the 17 and 18th Andy had a ball Struck his hand and nocked his gun out of his hand but did not draw blood and matter went threw his cape and Mc said there was 12 boolit holes threw his blanket that was on his back you know poor Ed Holmes was shot dead that time Andy got his wound on the 24th he was out on picket and got sick and started for camp and was wounded on the way you know that Alvin has gon to Stubinville on a 20 days furlow Thomas is at chester Hospital delawer Co Pensalvana his health is poor well Nan i have to stop for the mail boy is ready to take this to the ofice we send to the ofice every night for the mail i have bought me a buggy and when no one else goes i get up a nag and go my self now Answer this Soon and i will be more prompt next time good by Emily E to Nancy E

Note: Andy and Lean [James Leander] were Mack's brothers. Emily and Nan were sisters married to brothers. The person referred to in Chester Hospital is Thomas C. Radabaugh., Mack's cousin. Edwin C. Holmes was killed on June 18, 1864 at Petersburg at the age of 25. Like most of the other men from Hillsdale, Holmes was in Company D of the 2nd Michigan Infantry.

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