

MACK TO NAN

Rainy Thursday morning March 30<sup>th</sup> 1865

My Dear Nan I have just received your very kind letter dated March 25<sup>th</sup> stating that our Father was quite poorly. I hope he is well by this time. I was sorry to hear such news but we are liable to hear of sickness and even death among our near friends at any time, but Our Kind Creator has been good to us and spared the lives of Our loved ones so far. I feel very thankful to him for his goodness to us, in sparing our lives thus far while separated from each other and I hope and Pray that we will all be permitted to meet on Earth again and enjoy life together. I have heard from any of the Boys at the front yet since the fight of last Saturday. I see in the Papers that some of the boys in my Regt. is wounded. I know some of them, but Andy, D.C. or T.C.s name was not mentioned, in the wounded. I fear some of them may be killed or Prisoners as there was a big slaughter and a good many taken prisoner, in my brigade.

Now I have any thing special to write today. I won't write much. I will write a little each day, and by and by I will have a full sheet of nothing. I will soon have to stop and get dinner. there is a sick sergeant who lays by my side that keeps talking to me so much I can't hardly write he has the consumption. his Father was here yesterday to see him. he lives in Maryland. the Sergeant is a good boy. I wait on him a great deal. he says he can trust me with any thing he has. he had a very nice gold ring, and one day he says to me, if I should get worse and die I want you to send this ring to my Mother. he says he feels willing and prepared to die. What happy thing it is to feel that all is right when we are on the bed of sickness and know now how soon we will leave this world. the Sergeant sent his ring home to his mother with his Father yesterday, but he is mending now. I think he will get well. I will stop for today. it is raining hard all day it is very warm and sweltery. good by for today. Pa to Ma, and baby.

Alvin E E Friday 31<sup>st</sup>

I will write a few lines now just for the fun of the thing. yet I have any thing funny to write but I will write to pass away a few moments of time. I have a little good news to write that is this. I expect to come home on a furlow in a few days. The Dr told me this morning that I might have one he took my residue

Alvin E. Ewing  
was Born Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 1864

Sarge Smith lived at Hagarstown M.D was furlowed home & soon died.

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Note: The letter ended abruptly. All of it was written in red ink except where he wrote my name, Alvin E E and Alvin E. Ewing was born, etc., which are in black ink, and the last line about Sergeant Smith's death which is in pencil.

The letter following this, written Friday March 31<sup>st</sup>, is in black ink, and seems to be largely a repetition of above. No explanation is offered, but I believe he was so elated over the promise of a furlow that he scarcely knew what to do with himself.

AEE 021731