

Corktown Va

Sept 28<sup>th</sup> 1863

My dear Maria

I have just got through breakfast and got my official papers off for head Qrs so will scribble you a few lines. Since I last wrote we have lost by death six of our men. Five died in two days and one was shot by a negro soldier late at night. The negro is to be tried but will probably be cleared. On account of the unusual amount of sickness here I wrote to Sister that it was not best perhaps for him to think of coming here yet.

It would not be strange if we were ordered to Newbern N.C., but as yet we know nothing positive so can't say certain. This climate appears to be of the very worst! The 118<sup>th</sup> & 99<sup>th</sup> N.Y. Regt<sup>s</sup> at Gloucester Point are large Regiments but now report only 100 men each for duty. Our's is the smallest and we report about 200 so you see we are better off than any of the rest but bad off at that. I am still in Command but I expect Col. Ripley & Maj. Davis home this week so we will be pretty well supplied with field officers. We expect to get paid off this week but I am afraid I will not be able to send you much this