

Washington D.C.

May 20<sup>th</sup> / 1865

My Dear Anna

Your kind letter of  
the 22<sup>nd</sup> is before me & I now  
hasten to answer it. It is a cold  
rainy day very disagreeable  
This week has been very busy  
with us Tuesday & Wednesday  
was the Grandest Light Parade  
I saw. Tuesday the Potomac Army  
our Sir & Sheridan's Cavalry  
was reviewed It was a splendid  
day just cool enough & so  
pleasant. I went out on the  
Review with General Brint. As  
we entered the City we met  
the crowd estimated at 50,000  
People. Our welcome will be long  
remembered and every Soldier

They felt himself honored in  
being in that Review. The streets  
was gaily decorated over the columns  
& so was the house. The first that  
met us was a banner inscribed "Welcome  
our Brave Heroes Welcome Home"  
The next was "The only national  
debt we never can pay is the  
debt we owe our Brave Soldiers"  
But the most interesting was  
as we came to the stage on which  
the Pres & Lieut Gen Grant sat  
I had a good view of them also  
General Sherman Gen Thomas Gen  
Howard; Hancock, & numerous  
others It was a sight long to  
be remembered. He was but one  
thing to that our pleasure  
that was the thought that  
our beloved President A Lincoln  
should have lived - to see  
this which his hand wrote

has done for us. When  
the Museum Army was Review  
I also saw that. It was full  
as grand as the first days  
Review those who saw it will  
never forget it never. You  
ask what I am doing not  
much simply taking care of  
The Mail. You also ask when I  
am coming home. I think not  
before fall if we do them as  
they intend to keep the German  
I would like much to come  
home now. As the war is ended  
and I want to make myself  
at home. only think 22 this month  
(28 May). 4 years more of war would  
have left me an old man surely  
"Grown old before my time". Even  
now I feel worn out & much  
older than I really am but  
Thank God our hard ships are



enough to The Rebels whipped.  
I regret no hardships that  
has passed out rather feel  
proud of it. Many of my friends  
at these Old Cars - here for home  
this next week having served nearly  
3 years. It seems hard to have seen  
them I address you. They are bound  
to me by nearer ties than could  
have been formed in civil life. Shoulders  
to shoulders we have stood through  
all. It seems like separating with  
brothers. God Bless them & Guard them  
wherever they are. It is my earnest prayer  
The Copperheads say the soldiers will  
come home completely demoralized  
I say it is not so. Every good  
noble feeling has been enlarged  
while in the Army although as  
they will be very rough yet ben-  
eath that rough surface beats a  
heart so warm & true as never beats  
beneath the heat of a day at home.  
Who would scornfully step aside so  
that his broad cloth should not come  
in contact with the Army blue  
(I Love that same blue)