

Summit Point, Va

April 16<sup>th</sup> 1865

Dear Anna

Thy kind letter reached me this day many thanks for your kind wishes. We had just set off for Lynchburg when the news came that Richmond had fallen & Lee surrendered. When we returned to this place yesterday we received the sad news of President Lincoln's assassination causing intense excitement and such gloom as I have rarely seen in the Army. How hard when he has just begun to see the fruits of his labor to be taken away. I can't realize that we have lost our noble President. It has turned our rejoicing into mourning.

Truly "His ways are mysterious  
& past finding out". God grant  
that the Demon may be caught  
& be killed by slow torture  
never here I seen such heart-  
felt sorrow preado every counten-  
ance as does now. Nothing else  
is talked about. In this great  
sorrow our victories are rarely  
spoken of. Such bursts of meli-  
gation was never heard & should  
this Army ever be called to  
meet the foe the spirit of  
revenge would help them on  
such kindness has the Presi-  
dent shown the Rebels I hope  
will never be shown them  
again. Let them suffer for  
their feindish deeds. I think  
we shall remain here for some  
time now all are looking anx-  
iously to see what Johnson will

do. The Rebels probably think  
that they helped them selves  
when Lincoln was assassinated  
but they have hurt them  
selves. for Vice Pres Johnson  
has a will that will soon  
show them they have not  
helped their Unholy Cause.  
Revenge is the cry in the  
Army & by all. Dear Anna  
you may think this a wild  
letter but really I have felt  
so bad to day I could not  
collect my thoughts sufficient  
to write clear. Let me think  
of any thing else & my mind  
instantly returns to our dreadful  
loss. Please excuse me Anna  
and I will try to do better  
next time. Please write soon  
and if you are hoping to have the  
privilege of seeing you by the 4<sup>th</sup>

of next July. With the privilege  
of knowing that our noble  
banner is floating over every  
portion of the United States is  
my earnest prayer

With Love I Remain

Yours