

Home Aug 13 -

My Dear Annie -

Your dear letter
was received near a week ago,
but I have not found a moment's time
to write till the present time, O. W. has
been in an engagement, not a very
severe one but enough so to alarm
us very much, last eve when the news
came, his man the paper stated
more of the officers in the 51st injured
which received us very much, we
are thankful for this preservation
& hope the Lord will ever be
around him to preserve from danger
& harm, surely our Father has been
good to us in sparing our loved ones
to us so long, for we have a
cousin in Taylor's Battery who has
now been absent from us near one
year, had been in four severe

engagements, including those at
Savannah & Petersburg, & had escaped
thus far without a scratch, he is almost
the same as Brother Louie has at our
family, & for several years, & his home
was being near Andrew's & Olier, they
met each other accidentally a few
weeks since, & Olier said ^{for} I think I was
somewhat glad to see him, so much
so that I stopped & talked with him
him nearly half an hour at the risk
of losing my regiment, this wicked cruel
war when will it be over —

Our church has been very much afflicted
in losing three of its most useful &
prominent members by death, in less
than ten days, two by typhoid fever
& one died in an apoplectic fit, one was
one of our most intimate friends, &
leaves a young wife & one beautiful
little boy, little over a year old,
it becomes so all the while whose turn
will it be next,

Why is our Father dead? this with
us, does he find us a wayward
flask, & is he looking away our leader
that we may look more to him the
Great Shepherd? How must there is
to remind us that this is not our
home, & if it were not for these
reminders, should we ever think
thus. — — —

As to our "big brother" age
you little dear don't think I don't keep
myself posted, I said thirty in that
place because it jingled better than
thirty two, of course he is old, but
we hope he will live to see thirty two
more years before his mission here is
done, fulfilled, & as to his brother
orders I do find him must be
troublesome, & easy to control, now
the pet is gone, I used to tell them
when they were little here, what mischief
one would not think of the other could,
whenever one had started on a

forbidding track & I ordered him, but
all that was needed was a word or look
of approbation (& he was sure to have it too)
from the other, & my words were overheard
as the wind, I used to tell them I did not
wonder their mother was all broken down
having brought up two such unruly boys as
they were, such happy times as we did
have those days, & when will they return
erho answers when I told Andrew that
Annin asked if he was a good boy now
his big brother was gone, "What a foolish
girl, of course I am always good don't
know how to be any other way."

I wish you was out here, not you were
a week as a visit, we live in a little
house on the lake shore, & as Cates used
to say one of the most lovely spots in
the world. So indeed I do not think
Cates is entitled to any grain of credit
for our acquaintance, he played off
hand all the time in that game, it
was me ourselves, & no one else that
did it, but it is tea time & I wish close
with much love from Andrew & myself
Write soon very soon to your
loving love