Camp 1st N. Y. Dragoons.
Mitchels Station Va March 28th/64.

Dear Cousin Sallie.

I Recd your very welcome letter Monday morning, while on picket. & I assure you it was gladly recd I had a very pleasant time while on duty, the nights were beautifull, & all quiet on the line, during the day I had my boys secure a large pile of logs for fire during the night, while enjoying the comfort of the fire I could not help but think of the many pleasant time that I had enjoyed with dear friends, & build air castles for the future which are much easier planned than carried out. You speak of writing me while Coys D. & G. were visiting you. the one that I recd Monday is the first that I have recd since then. I recd a letter from Mag

last week, all were well when she wrote. There is nothing new with us here, all remains very quiet. I hope that when Gen'l Grant takes Command of us & our army reinforced that the Army of the Po. will do honor to the Nation. I begin to be encouraged now, that we are allowed to vote, & when that vote comes, such a majority will roll up for Father Abraham, that will make the Nation rejoice.

Last night we had a heavy fall of snow which fell to the depth of about eight inches, to day the Sun is shining bright, & I feel in hopes that a few days will carry it off, although the men seem to enjoy it much, the Air is full of snow balls & reminds one of skirmishing.

You speak of the 17th being your birth day. I suppose ~~your~~ I am to judge from that, that you are sixteen, as I believe young Ladies

remain at that age for several years. perhaps yours is an exception.
I am sorry to hear that you have been so afflicted with sickness & my wish is that you may all be restored to your former health. Remember me with much love to all. I shall be glad to hear from you often, as my correspondence are very few & all confined with in the limits of home & Cousins. which I am sorry to say, but such is the fact. Please pardon this dull letter & I will try & do better in future. & believe me ever your affectionate Cousin.

Sam.

Mar 24/
1864