

I have only received one
letter from home since I joined
the regiment but have sent
more than a dozen home
Before Petesburg Va
June 26th/64

Henry and Ned are well
My Dear Father
To you this is the
quiet sabbath you can look
across the river and see the
school house door open for
Sunday school you see those
you have so often seen going
to and coming from the morning
school. You hear the church
bells ring and join with those
who gather around the altar
I hope with those who worship
God in spirit and in truth to
you all is quiet no sound
of war disturbs you and
was it not that many who

I have only received one
letter from home since I joined
the regiment but have sent
more than a dozen home

Before Petesburg Va

June 26th/64

Henry and Ned are well.

My Dear Father

To you this is the
quiet sabbath you can look
across the river and see the
school house door open for
Sunday school you see those
you have so often seen going
to and coming from the morning
school. You hear the church
bell ring and join with those
who gather around the altar
I hope with those who worship
God in spirit and in truth to
you all is quiet no sound
of war disturbs you and
was it not that many who

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society
MMN # 97760

Date: June 26, 1864

Description: Lt. John Sheahan on soldier's life, future plans

once gathered to gether as
you now do, are absent-
you would have no feeling
of the war, a sabbath still-
ness reigns at home, But O!
how different here there is
no sabbath no rest for the
weary soldier, at no time
is he free from danger the
battle that commenced on
the 16th inst still lives the
cannon has not yet ceased
to roar the bullet to whistle,
Before us in full sight are
the Rebels, daily we see them
to work on their fortifications
and each hour are our
men falling dead and wounded
a gradual approach to Petersburg
is going on, and the enemy
can be dislodged from his
position only by the spade
it is singular but soldiers

once gathered to gether as
you now do are absent
you would have no feeling
of the war. A sabbath still-
ness reigns at home. But O!
how different here there is
no sabbath no rest for the
weary soldier at no time
is he free from danger the
battle that commenced on
the 16th inst still lives the
cannon has not yet ceased
to roar the bullet to whistle.
Before us in full sight are
the Rebels, daily we see them
to work on their fortification
and each hour are our
men falling dead and wounded
a gradual approach to Petersburg
is going on, and the enemy
can be dislodged from his
position only by the spade
it is singular but soldiers

fear this more than cannon
You need have no fears that
we will be unsuccessful
our secess is as certain as
the coming day, but ah what
a price we pay for victory, if
you could see what I have
seen in these last battles
you would say, O Victory dearly
bought! never do I wish
to look upon such sights
again, but a more bloody
struggle is close at hand
which in my opinion is to
decide our final victory or
defeat.

By all means buy the house
900 is cheap dont fail to
make it a sure thing if
it cost 1000 and I have to
pay it for I fully intend to
marry this coming winter and
I shall want that house to

fear this more than cannon
You need have no fears that
we will be unsuccessful
our secess is as certain as
the coming day, but ah what
a price we pay for victory, if
you could see what I have
seen in these last battles
you would say, O Victory dearly
bought! Never do I wish
to look upon such sights
again but a more bloody
struggle is close at hand
which in my opinion is to
decide our final victory or
defeat.

By all means buy the house
900 is cheap dont fail to
make it a sure thing if
it cost 1000 and I have to
pay it for I fully intend to
marry this coming winter and
I shall want that house to

live in, possibly I may not
marry but I may.

I really believe it would
be an advantage for me to do
so, with the money I earn while
in the army I could support a
wife like the one I intend to
get have enough to buy me a
home and carry me thro medical
college which idea I shall
never give up if I can never
marry. for my first-year I
can save \$1000. This would
carry me through medical college
with \$200 over this would
take care of a wife one year
my second year would be
\$1000, at the end of the second
year I could have \$800 clear
at the end of the third \$800 more
making \$1600 to commence on
which would not be bad

John P Shea

live in, possibly I may not
marry but I may.

I really believe it would
be an advantage for me to do
so, with the money I earn while
in the army I could support a
wife like the one I intend to
get have enough to buy me a
home and carry me thru' medical
college which idea I shall
never give up if I can never
marry. for my first year I
can save \$1000 this would
carry me through medical college
with \$200 over this would
take care of a wife one year
my second year would be
\$1000 at the end of the second
year I could have \$800 clear
at the end of the third \$800 more
making \$1600 to commence on
which would not be bad

John P Shea-