I have only received one letter from home since I joined line regenius - out have sentmore There a dozen hom Pefor Petisburg 6° /04 Hen and hed are well. my become father to you this is the quiet- sattable you can liste across the siver and see - the sohool house door spen for Sunday school your see Those you have so office seem going to and coming from the morning school, you hear the Much well sig and join with home who rother around - the allar I hope with - Throw who worship God in spirit - and in truth to you all is quiet - no sound of war disturbe your 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

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

once pathered to gather as g in now do, are observeyour would have no feeling I - Phu war, a subboth stillness reigno at - home, Bus - O! how different here there is no sabballe no rest for the weary soldier, at no time is he few from doniger the buttle This - commence on The 16 inst - still lines the cumon has not - yet ceased to roan the bulett to whatter, Befor as in full sight are the Rebels, dail we see them to work on their fulpoolis and Each home are our men falling dead and wounded a gradual approach to Tetersty is going on, and The menny can be dislocked from his position out by the shade 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 stillness 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 bulett 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 Petersbg is going on, and the enemy can be dislodged from his position only by the spade it is singular but soldiers

fear Mis more - There cumon you need hom no fears that me will be unsuccessful vin secess is as certaini as The coming day, but all whata price we pay for vectory, if you could see what I have sun in These Past buttles your would say O Victory dearly 'brught ! never do I wish to look upon such sightsagain, but a more blowdy struggle is close at hand which in my spinion is to decide our final victory on defeat, By all means bus the house god is cheal don't fail to motor it a sure Thing if it - cost- woo and I have to for it you I fully intered to marry this coming winter and I shall want fact house to

fear this more than cannon You need have no fears that we will be unsucessful our secess is as certain as the coming day, but ah what a price we pay for victory, if vou 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, possibl 3 may notmarry but I mady, it would be an advantage for me to de to, with the money I sam while in the army I everld suffort-a wife like the one I intend to gest have enough to buy me as home and earry mi thro modical College which idea I shall never give whi if I can never mary, for my first-year, Can Sam \$1000 - Mis would carry me Muryh medecal college with \$200, over this would (ale care fa wife one year my second year would he Hero, at the end of the seemed year I could have \$ 800 clear at the end of the the \$800 more making \$1600 to commence on which would not be back

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-