Camp of Recruits, Oct. 5, 1862

My dear Jane

Here we are yet. Another Sabbath in this camp. It is the same camp although it has changed its name. There have been a good many changes since we came into it. A great many recruits have come in and a great many gone off, but we have received no orders. We are fixed very comfortably and are all well. The ground is low and it would prove a bad location if it rained, but we have had only one little shower since we came. The weather has been very warm till last night. I was rather cold, but I slept so sound, that I did not know it. It is warm again today. While I write several regiments are passing in different roads in sight of our camp. I went down to the river yesterday to fish and when I returned found our Lieutenant and all the men of the 103rd Regt. gone. They got ten minutes notice. They went to Fortress Monroe. There is a good deal of sickness up on the hills at Camp Convalescent. There are three or four funerals every day. There is usually a man or two killed every night by the guards. One was killed last night while trying to pass the guard of our camp. Another cut his throat and another was stuck with a bayonet. It is strange no more casualties happen from the way the men behave. Our men are now all together by ourselves; we have no officers or any one to look after us. We do our own cooking too, and get along just as near like we did at home as possible. We are very comfortable. David Johnston and Jno. Cooper, cook for us. some one else chops the wood, others carry water and I fish. It may be we will stay a good while, and perhaps we may be ordered off before I finish this letter. I hope we will be there a day or two longer. So that I may get some word from home. You now hardly write again to this place. I will still send you word once in a while till I can tell you where to answer. You will then have so much more news to send, and I will enjoy it all the better after waiting for it. I hope you are all well now. Eight of our men have been put on guard to day. I slipped. The sergeant said he would not put me on as I was a privileged character. I don't know how he got at that. I would rather be on when the rest are than left in the tent by myself. We have very good tents, and if it gets cold can make a fire in them as the lower part of the support is iron and there is a hole in the top to let the smoke out.

Since I commenced this the 12th Reserves have been ordered off. They go within a few miles of our regiment. Hope our turn will be next. Give my respects to all friends and my best love to yourself.

William

I enclose some morning glory seeds from our camp grounds. They are all colors and are growing in little clumps all over the
ground. Have nothing to run up. They look much nicer than the
Convolvulus.