Any dear Son I rec'd a letter from you late last eve, and snatch a few mounts to answer it you say, you have been insiting for me, now I am sorry to hear it for I have been doing the same thing, as I wrote last, but I should not have wenter so long if I had not felt tompelled to for I have been uncommonly busy this fall I winter so per, but hope to get over my hunny before longo yes I feel to make sine allowance for you, and if you could see how much I have to hinder me from won't ling I think you would all ask for any whol. ugy from me when I fuil to vile, It is envoying my choicest privileges to write to my entity my chocce've prevelieges at unter in huy children & friends, and I do not wholy dany mugself this pleasure, as you will judge when I tell you this is the fourth I have written since last Sal eve abler eight actorite

[written at the top of the letter sideways]
I sent
Henry's &
Georges foto
graphs to
Josy in my
last to him
I am sorry
you could
not have
seen them
but hope
you will
see the
original

but it is quite mild just now

before a great while We have had some very cold weather

E Plainfield Jan 13th /64 My dear Son I rec'd a letter from you late last eve, and snatch a few moments to answer it You say, you have been waiting for me, now I am sorry to hear it for I have been doing the same thing, as I wrote last, but I should not have waited so long if I had not felt compelled to for I have been uncommonly busy this fall & winter so far, but hope to get over my hurry before long. Yes I feel to make due allowance for you, and if you could see how much I have to hinder me from writing I think you would'nt ask for any apology from me when I fail to write, It is among my choicest privileges to write to my children & friends, and I do not and I do not wholy deny myself this pleasure, as you will judge when I tell you this is the fourth I have written since last Sat eve after eight o clock

and I went to meeting all day last Sabbath at Sebanon five miles distant But I am wasting time in preliminaries You say you went my velvice & ofinion as to your regulisting, but say it will be lor late to profit you, Now of my advice would decide the matter I should feel louth to give it in this case, But I will tell you some of my feelings of late; or since this reentisting commenced) I have fell ouch a desire to see you all once more safe or well that I could feel almost willing to have this is my nectional feelings, I know the inducements eve great, and it is not to be wondered at, that you should have some incline tion on that account, but still I would have you act from a higher mor tive, yes alt from a sense of duly twe, yes act from a sense of aling. Cheplain, on I hope he will from to be so one that will be furthful to his trust, a workmein that will not need to heaver have

and I went to meeting all day last Sabbath at Lebanon five miles distant But I am wasting <u>time</u> in preliminaries You say you want my advice & opinion as to your reenlisting, but say it will be too late to profit you, Now if my advice would decide the matter I should feel loath to give it in this case, But I will tell you some of my feelings of late; or since this re enlisting commenced, I have felt such a desire to see you all once more safe & well that I could feel almost willing to have you re enlist to secure that pleasure, But this is my <u>natural</u> ^ & <u>maternal</u> <u>feelings</u>, I know the inducements are great, and it is not to be wondered at, that you should have some inclination on that account, but still I would have you act from a higher motive, Yes act from a sense of <u>duty</u> I am glad to hear you have got a good Chaplain, or I hope he will prove to be so one that will be faithful to his trust, a workman that will not need to be ashamed

rightly dividing the word of truth and giving to each their fortion in due season, yes and I hope you will have a fortion that will be lasting as elimity You may tell your theplain if you play so that he shall have my preyers to that effect. It makes me feel seed that you should speak so lightly of such an important went, If you should go under your family would be in easy circumstan ces as for us money was concenned, Now may elcar by if you would strive to be we the that rich inheritance to your wife and for - sig chidosen, a life of fuith & trust in God it would would be better than those Sands of silver & gold, tyes yes, for man wants but little here below, nor wants that little long" O yes aim higher you do'nt wention of getting any thong land of the lond sent to flory but those you diet, I sent a love to Elmer four weeks eyo to day last mek I heard from him Saying he had just red it and a

rightly dividing the word of truth and giving to each their portion in due season, Yes and I hope <u>vou</u> will have a portion that will be lasting as eternity You may tell your Chaplain if you plea se that he shall have my prayers to that effect_ It makes me feel sad that you should speak so lightly of such an important event, If you should go under your family would be in easy circumstan -ces as for as money was concerned, Now my dear b^oy if you would strive to leave that that rich inheritance to your wife and fam -ily children, a life of faith & trust in God it would would be better than thousands of silver & gold, Yes, yes, "for man wants but <u>little</u> here <u>below</u>, nor wants that little long" O yes aim higher

You do'nt mention of getting any thing out of the box I sent to Josy but hope you did, I sent a box to Elmer four weeks ago to day last week I heard from him saying he had just rec'd it and a

esal bad been in the lox over devoured about all there was in it encepting his butter & cheese but he thought the most of that, so it wasn't so bed as it might have been after all, but you can judge of his disappointment, I sent his a roast spare rib 14 fried hornovers a lot up Jugar gingenbread & seed cales and same apples I have a letter from Josey last meet belling me of his change, I am sorry to hear he has left you, But I suppose you will want to hear a little about home; well me have met with quite a loss, father brught a pair of ago lone of them died, I think he hast him self fighting? futher weld nt mate the other very well so be bought another few and John 59 fore their, he is feeling rether by requesting you to unite as soon als possible and bled its know whether you have entisted on not, We had the news lust night that your uncle Thomas had learned his son Thomas he died at home but has been in the every, I havent beenned the force

rat had been in the box and devoured about all there was in it excepting his butter & cheese but he thought the most of that, so it was'nt so bad as it might have been after all, but you can judge of his disappointment, I sent him a roast spare-rib 14 fried turnovers a lot of sugar gingerbread & seed cakes and some apples I had a letter from Josy last week telling me of his change, I am sorry to hear he has left you, But I suppose you will want to hear a little about home, well we have met with quite a loss, father bought a pair of two year old steers last fall paid \$45 for them [paid*] about two weeks ago one of them died, (I think he hurt himself fighting) father could'nt mate the other very well so he bought another pair and paid 5[9] for them, he is feeling rather poor over it, But I must stop writing by requesting you to write as soon as possible and let us know whether you have enlisted or not, We had the news last night that your uncle Thomas had buried his son Thomas he died at home but has been in the army, I hav'nt learned the particulars From your own Mother