

It is generally believed that she burst one of her best guns at 4 o'clock or a little after.

She remained in sight until about 6. When she put back towards Norfolk's. She again made her appearance at 8 o'clock Saturday morning and lay in sight all day she kept cruising around but was careful to keep out of range of our guns. Our little Chesapeake the Monitor was laughing out of both eyes in the prospect of having a chance of giving her a good spanking. Our Monitor did not reply to her at all in hopes of drawing her out into our water but she kept sending over of the rebel guns upon Crown's Island some seven or 8 miles distant.

I have me a fine glass now that I can look right into rebel den with and see something of their movements. I could see the main plume enough to see men upon her at the distance of 7 or 8 miles perhaps she was farther off.

I think if the Merrimack gives us a chance at her again we will either capture her or sink her. The Merrimack must I think make her appearance again as I hear just now heavy firing in the direction of Newport news.

Our Surgeon Dr Wright has gone to Porttown to day. Our troops are gaining ground there every day.

Yesterday we sent Christ. Brown home. I think it somewhat doubtful if he lives to reach Bradford he is very low & has consumption. Now he has been almost idiotic for a week. Our friends in Bradford are all well as usual no news there nor nothing stirring as usual.

I cannot get a furlough yet nor do I hear any thing from Washington Judge Holmes wrote to Casey to procure my discharge for me but as matters are working I believe that we will all get an honorable discharge by the 1st of June next.

Enclosed I send you \$5.00 which you will make good use of.

Except these few lines and a kiss from your absent husband.

N. F. March

P.S. I shall send \$20. to A. H. for my pay this time.