

[LETTER 4]

Natchez Sunday 8th 1864 [May ?]
My own dear baby

I got your long
and loving letter just after my last
raid into La where I had been after
the rebs with a sharp stick. I caned
the Fort Pillow on them and taught
them a lesson which they will long
remember. You will see full accounts
of it in the papers write to ma should
you not be in St. Louis for a copy
Of Course the old Lady will keep a copy
of that which relates to her darling son
And So my darling you gave Binni a
good lecture on spending money
playing poker & while I don=t know
but I deserve it. I know I have been
right bad and ought not to have
done as I did. I will not play any
more for money for six month to come
by way of attonement[sic]. I am living economically
and will be able to send home a good
portion of my income. I expect to be
paid off in a few days. I am so
sorry for my poor little boy dear little
soul How I long to see him and
[and] take him to my heart Daisy Dimps
Kiss her for me a F_____ & teach him
to call his papa. My own dear
baby How my heart yearns after
you all and believe me my
own darling child that could I
get out of the army now I should
do so never mind I will not re-
main longer than next spring at
any rate then I will go home and
you will have me all to your self
once more I have been to dinner at
Judge Harts. I have got such nice quarters
and should you come down next fall
we will have a nice house to live in
I think the lady who occupys a part
of it will vacate altogether The weather
is delightfully cool. I know you would

be delighted were you down here now
Just your kind of days. And so you
think I will only write once a week
Well old Lady you are very much
mistaken then you shall have at
least two a week from your old
man. Tell Annie to write me I
hope she has not forgotten that brother
dear entirely. Tell her I am negligent
about writing but my heart is all right
Browner[?] is in superb condition and
will come home one of these days
to bear his "Old Mrs" as in days
gone by Frank is still with me
and often talks of you try and
enjoy yourself this summer I will
try and do all the saving down here
I don't want to see you stinted in any
thing here after that is reasonable and
within our means. I'll send you the
enclosed and will write soon

Ever your own loving
Binni