Near Petersburg, July 12, 1864

Dear Brother,

I take this opportunity to let you know that I am well at present and hope these few lines may find you the same I received your letter of the seventeenth this morning and was glad to hear from you once more. We are still here in front of Petersburg, we have mortars planted all along the line and I tell you they make a great snarling and cracking by day and the son is awful hot down here in the trenches but I think it must be a splendid sight later.
In Johnny's trenches especially when our mortars commence throwing shells into their trenches their is a power of men gets shot by the rebel sharp shooters. Their has bin two men of our regt wounded this morning you wanted to know if I wanted any money well a little wouldn't go a miss till pap can he gets them forty dollars to send me five i have much use for money here i must bring this to a close for I have to go a detail no more.

J. H. Pierce 

Direct Co. D 97th regt. p. o.
3rd brigade 2nd division
tenth corps via
Fort Madison