My dearest Nicholas,

How doth the weather fair on the Western United States? Here, it's getting warmer with each passing hour, and the sun continues to linger on the horizon more and more every day.

Speaking of the wonderful sphere that lives in our sky, my dearest comrade spoke quite a complex riddle at me a fortnight ago. Perchance, might you be able to solve it?

It is a 5 letter word. If you take away first letter, it is something you get from the sun. If you remove the third letter, you get a word to use when pointing. Remove the fourth letter you get something to drink. What is it?

I eagerly await your reply,

Sincerely,
Old School Still Cool