

Morris Island S.C.
Jan 22^d 1864.

Dear Emmy,

I received your letter yesterday, but was too busy to answer it at once, and am afraid that this will not get started in the return mail, but it will not be of much consequence, as there is nothing of any importance to communicate. I have been quite anxious to hear from you as you were not well when you wrote last, and there was one mail that came in without any letter from you. But I am very glad to hear that you are well again.

My own health is good, as usual, and that is about all the news that will be likely to interest you. We still occupy our old camp, but there is some talk of going to Beaufort soon, but I do not "take much stock in it"

I was considerably amused, and, to tell the whole truth, a little mortified, ~~that~~ ^{^by} your telling that silly story about, the figure of a "negress", on the dome of the Capitol. I do not know where you heard of it, but I think you will find that you have been "sold cheap." But in sober earnest, / dear Emmy, I begin to feel troubled about coming home.

I have seen some of the "democratic papers" of New Hampshire lately, and I have every reason to fear, from what you have written occasionally, that you fully agree with the sentiments that they advance. I do not so much wonder at that, when I consider the talk that you have probably heard, from those you have always received your opini^{ons} from, but it will be a very great trial to me to find that the dearest friend I have, thinks so widely different, on a subject that interests me so deeply.

I could bear it with indifference from any one else, but with you it would be very hard. I assure you that I heartily concur in all of the measures that the administration has adopted for the suppression of this rebellion, and that I have perfect confidence in the honesty and capacity of our President, and am thoroughly disgusted, (and more than that) with the course of the democratic party of New Hampshire in their opposition to any measures that will be likely to bring this war to a successful, and honorable termination. I have no doubt that this will grieve you, but it is the expression of my honest convictions and my opinions have been formed from a knowledge of facts that may not have come to your knowledge. I have always avoided writing on this subject, because I did not to discuss any subject where we should disagree, perhaps it would have been much better if I had done differently, but I do not wish to make the experiment now, so if you please we will not say any more on the subject. I have told you this because I thought it would be better for you to know how I feel, about this thing

Tell Nelson that I do not wish to part with that gun, but if I get a chance to get another, I will send it to him. And now my darling I will close this letter, I feel as though it would not give you any pleasure to read it, but I will try and do better next time.

I am as ever your loving
Husband Leander