

Morris Island S.C.  
Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 1864.

Dear Emmy,

Your letter dated Jan 24<sup>th</sup> arrived last night, and the one containing Annie's. about a week ago. I could not answer that at that time and so I shall have to answer them both together I will try and answer Annie's letter to send with this. There is no news to write. There has an expedition gone somewhere, I don't know where, but this Reg<sup>t</sup> is left in the same old place and will not be likely to move at present I expect that the 7<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> has gone in the ~~ex~~ expedition but do not know

My journal will not be likely to be any great affair, as I only set down our daily duties and experience of soldiers life, it is very dull at present, and I am not gifted as a writer, so I think that it will fail to interest you much. But I will try and keep it along, and perhaps there will be some few things happen worth writing before I get home. Don't you let Lewis, or anyone else, worry you, about my not being able to get home after my three years are out. If I stay any longer it will be by voluntary reenlistment. I have not much doubt there are some that would be glad to see the Government, take that course in regard to the soldiers. for the sake of bringing trouble into the army, but I think they are bound to be disappointed.

I am very sorry that you feel so much opposed to my reenlisting, as I should get a chance to come home this Spring, and I do not believe that I should have to stay a year longer, than I shall at any rate, and then the bounty that is offered would be quite an object for us to start with after the war is over. I think it is the best thing I can do, for I am determined that I will never set down again to try to get a living by shoemaking, if I have to go to California. I do not promise you that I will not enlist, but I do not think that I shall, though, if you had been willing I should have done so long ago. But I must close this now, for I ought to write two letters besides Annie's to go in this mail. Write as often as you can, and, believe me as ever

Yours truly  
Leander