

U.S. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Hospital  
Point of Rocks, Va.  
Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 1864.

My Dear Emmy,

Yours of the 25<sup>th</sup> is received. I hardly know what to say for having remained so long, silent, but when I received yours of last week, I had no place to write in, and since then, have tried twice to answer it, but, succeeded so poorly, that I gave it up, and concluded to wait till your next, which by the way, is two days later this week, than usual.

I wish that I had answered yours of last week, as it is much better than this, some parts of which I do not like at all, But will not go into particulars, I have got situated in my new house at last, and it is a very pleasant place. I have got the best place there is about the Hospital, but things are not at all settled here yet, and I have not said much about a furlough yet, for it would be likely to injure my prospects here if I were to leave just now.

I mean to get home before Spring, however, You can see by my writing, that I am not in the mood for writing letters now, but I must write, or you will think that I have "done gone dead"

The fact is, that writing letters, has become a confounded nuisance. I would like to make a bargain with you, that you write twice a week, and, I not write any and when I get home, I will answer them all at once.

I am glad that you enjoy going to singing school, and that you are trying to enjoy yourself like a sensible woman.

You have never written me anything about Annie, that has pleased me so much, as that she is kind, and treats your little nigger. neighbor. well.

It is a most dispicable trait of character, to ill use, any person that we feel is below us in society, and I hope my little girls, will never be guilty of it.

About the money that the town voted to pay me: if they voted three hundred dollars, I do not understand how. Mr. Buck. proposes to settle it with two, and you need not do anything about it till I come home, There is a prospect of being. now in a few weeks.

If you need any money, I wish you would borrow it, and I will send you enough to pay it as I get paid. There I am going to stop writing. If I was with you there is enough. that I wish to say, to keep me buzzing till daylight. but it is of no use to try to write.

I have another picture to send you,

How do you like it.

Yours truly

Leander