

St. Augustine Fla. Sunday May 25th/62

My Darling Wife,

I have been looking for the steamer for the last two days, but have been disappointed so far. It may come today, and I thought it best to begin your letter although I never have much to write till your letters come. My health continues good, and there is but little sickness in the Reg^t. There are a few in the hospital but they are all doing well.

The band came up and gave us a serenade on Friday evening, I wish you could have heard it.

The weather is quite warm but it is very comfortable at night. Last night there was a splendid thunder shower, and it rained quite fast all night. There was more rain fell last night than I have known at any one time since I left home. I have a pressed leaf of a magnolia blossom, which I intend to send you in this letter just to give you an idea of the size of the flower. The flower contains 10 or 12 leaves, it is of pure white color, and has the richest perfume of any flower that I ever saw. One will perfume a large room. Perhaps you are getting ready to go to meeting. Well I hope you will have a pleasant time and get some of the letters that I have written. But if I were there I should not let you go to day. I some expect to have occasion to go to Port Royal by the next boat, but it is uncertain, I should like very well to see the place again. I believe that I mentioned that the Dr had moved down town. I have not called on them yet but intend to soon. He comes here two or three times every day. and his wife calls occasionally They are both in good health. But I will not write any more until the mail comes

Saturday May 21st

The mail has not come yet, I have been expecting it for more than a week. There I wont try to write now for there is one of those confounded old grannies, setting here talking about nothing and asking me about two questions, for every word that I have written. You can guess what kind of answers he gets. There he has gone and I have lost all idea of what I was going to write Tomorrow will be the first day of Summer. I should like to come into the house now. when you did not expect me just to see what you are all doing. I suppose father has got his garden all made and mother hers' too.

Sunday June 1st

Well the mail has arrived at last. [It*] has been more than a fortnight since the last before this. This came from Port Royal on a schooner. which came off the bar, and a boat went out and brought in the mail. The steamer which was to run here is employed carrying troops from Port Royal to the vicinity of Charleston S.C. and if our Co¹ had not been in such a hurry to get his Regt into active service we might have been with them now instead of being planted in this out-of-the-way hole, but I suppose it is all for the best, at least I have no doubt that you are glad that it happened so, and that will go a great way to reconcile me to this very inactive life I don't wish you to think that I mean to find fault with you, but you say that you have not written for a fortnight, and then you do not usually write such short letters, but I suppose you feel as I do sometimes, I have no doubt that you love me as well as ever

I am very sorry that Josie did not have a letter, but the last one was for both. You did not send the 40 letter as you ought to have done. I am glad that Annie is going to school, and hope she will like. There is not much doubt that we shall be at home before a great while. We have a very good place to stay while we are in the service, for I don't think we shall leave here until we leave for home

I received a letter from mother by this mail, and one from Henry, but none from William. I should like to know why he does not write, I hope that he received the letter that I sent him from Jacksonville. I should be sorry to think that all that paper was lost, but I think that must be the reason that he does not write

Well if there was anything to write about, I should not wait for him, but should write whether he did or not But I guess I will stop now, and begin again with black ink in the morning I did not begin again in the morning as I intended, but wrote to mother, now I shall have to make your letter short this time for the mail goes sooner than we expected and the letters, must be on board tonight, I am sorry this time for I have scolded you a little in this, for not writing me a longer one the last time. But I will take it all back, and you must excuse me this time, and I will do better the next time I shall not be able to write to sister Ruth, by this mail. Give my love to the babies and tell them both to write to me. Remember and write every week, and oblige

truly Your loving husband

Leander