

[Letterhead raised imprint: "L.L.B & CO"]

St. Augustine Fla June 8<sup>th</sup>/62

Dear Emmy,

As it is your birthday. I thought I would write a few lines, to let you know that I think of everything that concerns you. I hope you are well, and that, you will never see another birthday, without I am by your side We have had some very warm weather lately, but it is cooler at present.

For the last two nights, I have been tormented more by mosquitoes than I ever as in my life before. Some of the people here, told me that there was not many mosquitoes here, but I believe that. this is one of the peculiarities of the people of the South. They never admit that there is anything of that kind in their locality, but generally allow. there is a smart chance somewhere else. We are expecting a mail now, and I am anxious as usual to hear from you and the children I am very sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Taylor, I hoped to see him again when I got home. We have been living high for some time now. on melons, which are very plenty, and very good. Figs and grapes will be ripe the last of this month, This is the greatest country for grapes that I ever saw Well I guess I will put this by untill the mail comes in  
June 9"

There has no mail arrived yet, but as I have nothing to do, I may as well write you a few words, I am expecting now a much better place than I had any reason to hope for when I left home. Our Steward has applied for his discharge, which he will probably get, and the Dr has as good as promised the place to me, in fact I have every reason to expect it if Hunt goes home. It is a place which I had rather have than any other in the Reg<sup>t</sup>. It ranks with the highest noncommissioned officers. The duties are very light, and the pay of \$30. per month. But is shall probably know more about it before the mail goes out. I have been wanting to ask you to send me a box of things, but did not like to trouble you, but I need them so much, that I think you will not mind taking considerable trouble to oblige me I should like to have you as soon as you receive this, send me 4 shirts, (you can buy one pair if you have not got them made) and a few good collars, some pocket handkerchiefs, two or three neckties, a half dozen prs cotton stockings a half dozen prs good shoes, congress boots, or some other good style, I can fit myself with one or two prs, and sell the rest at a good profit, I want a good pr black, or dark blue pants, Size waist 34 length 36, (if they do not fit I can have them altered.) and a good felt fur hat, low crowned and wide rim, Size 7 3/8. I guess you can get Lewis, to help you about it, you must pack them as well as possible, and had better have the box strapped with iron I should like a good blue frock coat, but don't know how you would fit me. If I had the cloth I could get ~~them~~ it made. I should like a pair of calf-skin boots, if you have not disposed of those that I sent home you may send them. if you have and have plenty of money handy you may buy a pair. if I do not want them I can sell them for a good price. I want a half ream of good writing paper, (about this size) and some envelopes, it costs too much to buy them here. I should like to have you put in some black and white linnen thread and two or three spools of cotton, and a few skeins of black silk. There is nothing of the kind to be had here cotton hats been selling for 25 cts a [spool\*] but there is none in the market now. If you have not got the money by you perhaps you can get it. for I shall send you some more soon You can give the box to the stage driver, and pay him the

freight, but make him bring you a receipt from the Express agent. You must direct it plainly on two three sides, to me, care of J.C. Eastman Sarg 4<sup>th</sup> N.H. Vo<sup>l</sup>. St. Augustine Fla. You might send it up to Smith's and they would mark it with their blacking I know it will seem a considerable of an undertaking for you, but then I need them very much, and I will do twice as much for you when I get home. I have no doubt but that Lewis will help you about buying such things as you do not know about Send just as soon as you can after you get this and you will do me a great favor. A very sad accident happened here this afternoon, (June 13<sup>th</sup>) three soldiers were drowned by the upsetting of a sail-boat. several boats are out searching for the bodies but have not found any of them yet. A very funny marriage came off here last Sunday, but I guess I will send you a paper, that contains an account of the whole affair But I will not write any more now June 18<sup>th</sup>

The mail arrived yesterday, and brought me three letters, two from you and one from William. You are a darling to write so much, but I have not time to write but little now, for the boat is going right back, but by the next mail you shall have a good long "love letter". I shall not have time to answer William's but this mail. Tell him I am very glad to hear from him, and I received the papers he sent.

Tell Josie and Annie that I was very glad to hear from them, and will write to them again soon Give my love to Nelson's & Lewis' families. I shall write to them as soon as I have time. I think I shall have the place I spoke of but cannot tell certain yet I wish, you would try and send the things that I want as soon as possible. I want you to send me a list of the articles, and the prices you may send me a vest, something pretty good you know about the style that will suit me. You may also send a few pairs of good suspenders we can't get anything of the kind here, I did not tell you the size that I wanted for shoes. You had better send two pair 8's, and the rest 7's, the boots I want 7's, you know ~~yo~~ that they must be high in the instep If you think you can buy a coat that will fit me I should like it very much William if he is not too busy would help you about it I have no doubt. He will tell you about how to send them by express. They have not found but one of those men that were drowned last week. There dearest I must close this now, but will send you a better one by the next mail. Brewster is well, he called on me this morning. he has written, so his wife will be likely to hear direct from him this mail The Dr and his wife are well

Truly yours,  
Leander