

Beaufort S.C. Oct 25<sup>th</sup>/62

Darling Wife,

It is quite a long time since I have written to you but you know it is no fault of my own. I have been so very busy for more than a week past that I have no had time to write you a word, and now I can only steal a few minutes and I am interrupted as often as every minute at that I requested Mrs. Sawyer to write to you for me which she did and I suppose you have received her letter before this. She is a most excellent woman I assure you, You have probably heard the account in the papers of the affair the other day. It proves to be failure, but it could not be called a defeat, for we drove the rebels back a number of miles and would not have been obliged to leave then, but the artillery used all their ammunition, and the enemy were largely reinforced and so we left. The enemy did not attempt to follow us, and were evidently glad to get off so. Our Regt behave nobly, and are highly praised by all hands. They were the last to leave the field and covered the retreat. you will probably hear a different account of us before the war closes. Our loss in this Regt was quite small (small) considering how they were exposed. 3 killed and 25 wounded The one that you feel most interest about is "all right", though I had a hard days work and never so tired before in my life. for three nights before I did not sleep more than three or four hours in all, and I think that I walked a number of miles in a sound sleep. I should not have got in that night if ever if it had not been for the exertions of a friend (Jim Haynes, Co. I) who was with me and would not leave me. I had a heavy load, three cases surgical instruments which weighted I judged before I got to the end of my journey, about three tons, besides a number of other things. I got within 4 or 5 miles of the place where we were to stop, when I laid down by the side of the road, and told Haynes that I would not go another step, and tried every way to make him leave me, told him I would give him my watch and everything else I had if he would only go but it was no of no use. then I tried to make him mad, I abused him like a pickpocket, but he sat by and let me sleep about one hour and then brought me a dipper of water (where he got it the Lord only knows) I drank that and got up and staggered in. When I got in I laid down my load and laid down among the wounded and was asleep in a minute. I slept three or four hours, then got up and went to work again So much for that. I will tell you more about it when I get home. The Dr. has not got back from Augustine yet and we have not heard a word from him since he left here I have not had a letter from you for some time, not since, I wrote before, but they will get along some time. You must not think strange if you do not hear from me as regularly as usual as there is prospect of considerable activity in this department of the army, but I will write as often as I can, and will deputise Mrs. Sawyer to write for me. I hope you will answer her letter for I know you would like her very much. I hope I shall get a letter from you soon for I am anxious to hear from (you) as often as possible. But you must keep up good courage and write as often as you can. Give my love to the darling babies and to all the rest of our friends. Write often to Mother + tell her all you can hear from me. Excuse me for not filling this sheet for I am very busy. Accept my best wishes for yourself for my sake. Dont fret for me for I am contented and as happy as I could be without you. Well not good bye God bless and keep you safe is the prayer of your own loving husband

Leander