

Beaufort S.C. Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 1862

My own darling wife

I have just received three letters from you and although “the [tatas\*]” has sounded I thought I must try and answer them. It has been a very long time since I received a letter from you. We have not had a mail here for a number of weeks, and I have not had a chance to send you a letter since the one I sent you just after the battle

It will seem a long time for you to wait but it will not be likely to occur again. You ask a great many questions but when I begin to write to you. I forget all about them, there is so much that I wish to write and I always think of something that I wanted to tell you after I get my letter sealed up

Our good little friend Mrs. Sawyer. is nearly well, she sits up all day, and has been out considerable today.

My friend Haynes, is well. By the way asked me to describe him, I never was good at describing a person. and will not try on him. He is a real “live yankee” and a real good fellow, perhaps you will see him sometime. My own health is good I have felt better for the last three or four months, than I have before since I left home. The Dr has not left the place yet. H was discharged some time ago. but as he was not honorably discharged. he could not get the pay for the two or three months time that he was absent, so he stayed and fugged round among the officers until he got his discharge altered in some way, so that he got his pay. He will probably make a great spread about his discharge, but you may be assured that he did not have an honorable one. He is thoroughly despised by every one that have had the opportunity to become acquainted with him. In fact he is the most contemptible person that I ever knew. He is the most shameless and impudent liar at present in existence. But I will not go into the details of his qualifications, you know very well the opinion I had of him before I left home, but when I get home I can tell you that, of, both himself and his wife, that will surprise you a great deal. His treatment of me has been meaner than I had any reason to expect, for if it had not been for his very active interference Dr Greeley would have appointed me Steward even after he had brought this other man out. Dr E, told him that he brought him out at his suggestion, and Dr G. says that, thinking that I had not a sufficient knoweledge of medicines to do the duties of Steward, he did say to Dr E. that he had better bring out some one to fill the place, but said he had much rather he had not done it, as he was perfectly satisfied with me, and would much rather give the place to me. He has always treated me in a manner becoming himself as a gentleman, which he certainly is

Dr Eastman is the only one that I have any reason to blame in this matter, and if he had acted the part of a man, and not that of a contemptible liar, “which he certainly is” I should not have any reason to find fault with him, in this affair. He told me that he would bring out any one for the place, not ten minutes. before he left, and that I should have the appointment as soon as he returned, when he had no idea of keeping his word with me. He came to me awhile ago for the purpose of plastering the matter over, (with a fresh batch of lies I suppose) I was talking with some men, when he came up. as good as ever, and said he wished to see me, and have some talk with me. I told him I thought we had had to talk enough, and in fact, rather more enough. I <sup>^</sup>have not spoken to him since. He thinks it is very ungrateful in me to “go back on him”, in this way, after all he has done for me!

I have written you this, because he will be very likely to call on you, and give his version of the story. But I wish you to bear in mind this, that whatever he tells you. is a lie, no matter how probable it may appear, I will pledge you my word for this, for I know he will not have any inclination to tell you the truth in this affair

But enough of him for the present, when I get home I shall find a way to make him feel, and you may be sure that I shall do it And now darling I will write concerning ourselves, I am very sorry that th<sup>at</sup> the picture I sent you is so handsome as to be troublesome, but dont be uneasy, it is rather a flattering picture, but we wont think of beauty if I get back to you. As for that impudent pedler, you tell him that he had better not let me catch him when I come back.

I have been rather negligent lately about writing to you, and as for any one else, I have not written answered their letters. But I will do better for the future, you shall have a letter every week if possible, and I will try and get my letters to William stared again. There has been nothing done here since the battle, so there is no news of importance to write about. But it is reported that we are to have a large force sent here soon. If that is true we shall be doing something here this Winter I have not heard from Elmer for a long time. and have not received a letter from any one but you since we left Augustine, with the exception of two from Willian. But you are a dear good wife to write so often, and I will not let you wait so long again for a letter from me if I can help it. Last year at this time I expected to have been at home before now, but I do not see any prospect of it at present, still I am not homesick yet, and you must try and be patient for a while longer. I hope that what your neighbors say, does not have any effect on your mind. You ought to have confidence in my love, at least I think you do not doubt it yourself. but are a little afraid that other people will think I do not care much about you. Well never mind them darling, this is something that concerns ourselves more than any one else. You wrote something about having the children minatures taken, and I was in hopes you would send them to me. I was somewhat disappointed when the mail arrived. I wish you would send them, for the little darlings must have changed a great deal since I have seen them, and besides the ones that I have are not good likenesses.

Sunday Morning

Well darling. I must finnish this letter for the mail leaves tomorrow or next day. I have been reading over you letters to see if there is any question in particular that I must answer. About my books, I cannot tell just where they are, I believe I left some of them at Dr Eastman and some at uncle Tappans, but do not know what. If you go to uncle Tappans, give my love all, ~~my~~ I received a letter from Margaret last night that has been on the road for some time I must answer that I suppose. I don't know what you will think is the matter with me this time. for I guess. there has not been so long a time passed before, without my writing, since I left home. But you must forgive me this time. and I will do better. I am very sorry that my darling is not more pleasantly situated, but you must be patient a while longer, when I get home we will move away from Hampstead, and try and find some place where we can be happy I guess such a place will not be difficult to find. for me, if I can have my dear little wife and babies Give my love to all of your friends Tell Clara not to forget what she dreamed, if she does I shall put her in mind of it when I get home. I hope you will have a very pleasant time next Thursday. I would give a great deal to be with you then. You have never told me what Nelson &

Hattie call their baby I wrote you to tell them to call her Emily if they don't I will bite the "little cuss" just as sure as I live

By the way, Dont you think it is most time for us to have another one. Cant you continue to raise one some way, I think I write often enough. Well my sweet darling I must say good bye. now. I will write again soon

I remain as ever truly your own Leander