

[Letterhead raised imprint: "O & H"]

Folly Island S.C. May 3^d /63

Dear Emmy,

I have written several times since I have received one from you, and do not feel much like writing till I hear from you. But as there is a chance to send I feel as though I must send you a few lines. just to let you know that I am well and thinking of my sweet little wife. I am glad that you wrote to Haynes, though I did feel a little bit disappointed when I found it was not for me, but I read it, and that was some satisfaction. I beleive I wrote you that I was going to leave Hilton Head - I do not know how you will feel about that, but if you knew how much better if feel to be with the Reg^t you would not wish me to stay there. We are encamped now about 5 miles from Fort Sumpter. It is plain sight, and the Islands, close down to our lines are occupied by the rebels.

The pickets are quite friendly on both sides They are so near together that they can talk very easily I do no think there will be any fighting here at present. That is about all there is to tell. so I must write about ourselves. It is getting to be pleasant weather there I suppose: how I wish I could be there to go and walk with you and the little ones. You must write often for I want to hear all about, how you are getting along: and I have hardly heard from you since those wicked letters that I wrote. I know that you have forgiven me, but I like to hear you say so every time you write to me. I sent you sixty dollars by the express, the other day, and I have ten more which I will inclose in this. I hope darling you will use all that you want. I shall you all that I can spare for I am not capable of taking care of money, and that † is the truth. I mean to make you the cashire of our firm for you were always a prudent little body, and I must try and do something for my little girls. Dont you think I am getting sensible? I will tell you what I have thought a great deal of since I left home

I mean as soon as I get home, to leave that part of the state where you are, and go to farming, either to buy, or hire a farm somewhere near where father lives. and take my dear little wife there, and see if we cant find a place where you will find pleasanter neighbors. How will you like that plan?

Well darling I cant write any more till hear from you. It is reported that there is a mail at Hilton Head for us. if it is so, I shall hear from you soon: and then I will write again

So now good bye for a little while.

Write often. Yours as ever, Leander