

June 30th/ 63
Camp Howell, Folly Island S.C.

Dear Emmy,

I received yours of the 11th a few days ago, and have tried once before to answer it.

I do not have so good a chance to write as I did in the Hospital as there is so many about here. but there is nothing of importance to write ~~a~~ about, though I believe you do not consider that a sufficient excuse for not writing

Well, the truth is, though I love my dear little wife as well as ever, it is very tiresome business writing letters. I am very glad to hear that you are all in good health, I have thought of you a great deal and meant to have written more as your own. and our little Annie ^{birthdays} happen in this month. I hope you thought to write to me on your birthday. I received a letter from William by the same mail that brought yours which I must answer. and I have had one from Mother & one from Elmer to answer yet, so you see that I must write some at any rate. The 7th Reg^t is encamped close by us here. I see J. nearly every day. He is well and looks as hearty as you please. the same is true of myself. I received the paper that you sent me, but will not give you my opinion of the article that you marked as I wish to avoid any discussion on a subject on which we are sure to differ very widely. I would like to to tell you my thoughts in regard to the course that Nelson & Lewis have taken in these troubles, but it would do no good and would make you feel uncomfortable. I am sorry that you wrote me what you did concerning them. The fact that you did so without expressing any disapprobation, of their words is positive proof. that we could not agree on the subject any better than at any other time, so I will change the subject.

July 2^d I will now try and finish this letter. I have been very busy for several days, but now there will be but little to do for some time. I have received three more letters to answer - One from Mrs. Sawyer, which I will inclose to you. You are welcome to read all the letters that I have sent home, though I did not intend to send any but yours. I have burned a great many. which I now wish I had sent home as some of them might have amused you. It is very pleasant here and the health of the reg^t is as good as could be expected. I have a peice of print that was taken from an English steamer that was driven on shore near here, while trying to [run*] the blockade into charleston. I send it to you as a present from my friend J.C. Dickerman the one that I wrote you that was sick and I was taking care of. It will do to make you an apron.

It is getting to be nearly the 4th of July, and that always reminds me of the rosebush near your Grandmothers door at Sandown. I do not think there has been a year pass since we first went there, but the rosebush has brought to my mind its pleasant associations, there will never be another, that will have as great a charm for me. But I cannot write anymore now, as I have so much to write. Good bye for a little while my darling. Write often Leander