

[letterhead has raised imprint: "DURAND & CO. LONDON"]

Morris Island S.C.

Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 1863.

Dear Emmy,

It is now two weeks since I have written to you. I meant to have written sooner but did not get about it, and now I have got two of yours to answer. I do not feel able to write a letter at all worthy to be called an answer. to your very kind letters, or one that will give you a fair idea of my sincere [righted\*] for you. If you will judge me by your own heart. it will tell you how dear you are to me, much better than I can tell it on paper. I hope you did not misunderstand me by what I wrote in the letter you mentioned for I had not the least intention of expressing a doubt of your love and constancy, for the first shadow. of doubt, has never crossed my mind, and I think you know this as well as myself. If you do not, let this be your assurance. I am sure, a love so ~~per~~ devoted and unselfish as yours deserves a perfect confidence on my part, if I cannot make any better return. But I think darling, that I do know. and fully appreciate the extent of your love, and though it may not be necessary, I do assure you, that it is as fully returned. I know that I would not exchange the confidence that I have, of possessing your undivide love. for every other advantage this world can offer. I did not realize. when I was at home, how sensitive you were to peoples opinion in regard to my love for you, but I will promise you that you shall never have any cause for complaint on that ground again. The time is fast coming when I shall be with you again, if your earnest prayers. in my behalf are answered. and God has dealt kindly and mercifully with us thus far, and though I am concious of my own unworthiness, I am happy in the hope that His mercies are in answer to to your prayers. I feel sure that there is no [passion\*] more likely to be favorably received by One, whose chief attribute is love, than the prayer of a true and loving wife, in behalf of an unworthy husband, and my precious wife I hope we shall both, be spared, that I may prove to you. how well I can return the love you have bestowed on me.

I have put off writing so long. that I have not time to write as much as I wish to at this time, but I will not neglect you so long again In regard to your remarks. about "Abrahams" policy. I will not venture to make my reply, for I am sure we should not agree, and I am very much greived that there should be any subject. where we are obliged to disagree, and would rather avoid the subject entirely.

I have not heard any news from home, since I left. that provoked me so much as to hear that Martha Griffin had married George Bailey. I always thought her one of the brightest. pettiest little girls in the place, and he, is one of the most contemptible blockheads I ever knew.

What business had the little fool, to be married at all, at her age? What do her folks say about it? Tell Nelson that I shall not be able to help him chop this Winter, though I should like to very much. and I suppose Brewster is in Florida with the rebels yet. Give my love to Hattie, Ruth and all the babies you can find. If you meet our good friends at Thanksgiving dont let them forget me. But I must close this now. Write as often as you can. And now my dear wife good bye for a few days.

Truly yours Leander

P.S. Please send me as soon as possible, by mail, tow silk han<sup>d</sup>kercheifs. I should like large ones but you will know what will suit me. L.