

[letter with raised imprint: "DURAND & CO. LONDON"]

Morris Island S.C. Aug 31st /63

Dear Emmy,

I received your letter of the 16th yesterday but have been so busy that I have not been able to answer it. till this evening. and as the mail goes in the morning I thought I would write, if only a few lines, so that you may have a letter by this mail. Your last letter contained much that interested me

I hope Lewis will not conclude to pay three hundred dollars to clear himself from "going for a soldier". I think he will miss it if he does, for it is not likely that he will have to serve a great while now, and it is not so bad after all as you think for. We are progressing slowly, but surely, with the seige of Charleston, It is a harder job than most of us expected, but no one doubts but that we shall succeed in the end. Our batteries have not been firing every fast for the past week. Fort Sumpter is pretty nearly demolished and our works, are being steadily carried forward in spite of all the enemy can do to prevent. Every one has perfect confidence in Gen. Gilmore, and his officers who direct the works. Our Reg^t has been as fortunate as usual. Though they have been exposed a great deal. to the fire of the rebel batteries, there has been only one killed, and two or three wounded since I wrote last.

I have not heard from Joseph since my last, but perhaps you have, as he said he would write to you. I do not write to anyone but you, but have written to Elmer since I received one from him.. I am very glad to hear so good accounts of my little girls. I want to see them very much, and their dear little mother, very much more, but I try to be patient, and wait a little while longer, and then: but I will not try to tell you how much happiness I antiscipate, when that good time shall really come. My health is good and I am not in the least discouraged, or disgusted with the cause in which we are engaged. I am every bit as patriotic, as when I left home. Though I have seen much that is wrong, in persons who hold places of trust, and responsibility. I love our Country as well as ever, and though I may never be called, to do, or be capable of doing any great things. I shall ever be ready to do all that is in my power ^{^in} its service. I guess our friends at home are forgetting me as they do not send me any remembrance, but I wish | you to tell them all that I think of them often, and send them my love. I shall not be able to send you any money at present, as I do not get any extra pay since the first of March. last. and my expenses are considerable, but I shall try to save enough, so that you and the children may be comfortable. Good night now my darling. Write often. and oblige

Your own Leander