

Pocotaligo S. C. Jan 17th 1865
Beloved Brother,

Your kind assurance of the
4th, was thankfully received the 17th, and
a happier Boy You never seen, when I heard my
name read among the Letters, it put new Life
wight in me, for it seemed an Age since I'd
heard from Home and Friends. 'twas the first I'd
heard from Home, since I left. I'm happy to hear of
Your good Health, also the rest of the family, it gave
me great pleasure to hear of the good Health, You're all
Blessed with, Well Ed & Gar, You've found me, the
same Old stick in the mud, plodding round the
country, down here in S. C. "seeking what I may
discover", Whaffler's Health is bulley at present, he lays
here, sleeping, at the rate of 40 knots an hour,
Laprary's Health is very poor, but I think he'll be all
wight in a few days, Mosecock is the same Old Cripple,
You could scarcely tell, how bad the Small Boy, by his looks,
Boyer was left to Savannah, he was on the gain, ^{last} we
hear of him, Shelley & Supper, was left at Beaufort S. C.
there Health being poor, not able to go on a Campaign, 'twas thought

best to leave them. Henry Read is tough and rugged.
Off. Potter & Co. Shelley, I seen Yesterday, they are well and
harty, J. King, Scoot, Thursten, & Hamer are well. They are
in the 16th Regt 3rd (Div. Prosser was left at Savannah,
I've seen the Boys in the 21st Regt a number of times.
Christmas I stayed with them, they were all well,
Fenns looked natural, Jule has grown wed some.

Ed you're bout wright concerning our long marches, and
hungry times we've seen, but thank God, we have an
abundance of rations now days, a few days fore we got
Savannah, twas a hard time, in eatable line, if the
Teamster gave thare Teams any Corn, they had to guard
them while they was eating, or twould be stolen away,
Since we got Savannah, we've had very easy times.
though we've moved round considerable so, but no such
marches as we had before, We stayed there 2 weeks,
I liked the looks of Savannah very well, though I should
like to live there, every thing was very dear there, twas \$2.00
if you looked at any thing, and \$5.00, or, if you bought it.
We left there the 4th 2. P. M. marched down to Fort Thunder
Boat, the next day, we went board the Transports, and the
next morning (the 7th) we got off at Beaufort had a
splended ride on the South Water, after we got off, the Boat
the Oylers had to supper. You may bet,

I went right down to the Beach and found an
Oyster Bed, if I didn't know down, a wright smart
of the tanel things, I'm no judge of Fish. I thought of Father
and Grandfather, while I was destroying them so, for I knewed
they were grate lovers of Oysters, (he stayed at Beaufort 6 or 7 days
I tell You, that was a wright smart of a place the prices was
bout the same, as they are in Wis. Tea, Sugar Coffee was jest the
same, Butter was 70 cts per pound, I got a pound, twas
the first I'd had since I left Wis. it didnt put me back
either, twas the best Country I seen since I come in the
South, was wright on that Island, Some of Gen Foster's
Nigger Troops, was doing duty in the City and the Forts. O
the Black imps, can jest more then put on Stills,
(he left there the 13th, the 14th our advance come up to the
Rebs, Skermishers was advanced immediately, and our Artillery
soon begun playing on them, our Div was in a advanced,
they want very strong, our Artillery gave them a warm
reception, and they soon Skedaddled, the 1st & 2^d Brig
went after them like gray hounds, the Rebs fell back bout
4 or 5 miles, to another fort, and as the Sun went down,
Cannonading was very heavy, but we went into Camp, Cooked
our Supper, some built best works all night but our
Gen went to bed, we arose in the morning expecting to have
some fighting to do, but behold they was missing

We fell in and marched bout a mile, and
com to the Savannah and Charleston, R.R
we are camped at the Station, the name (Pocotaligo)
I dont know but I've written enough, but its raining, so I
cant do any thing else. The wether has been som cool here,
but very little rain. Well Ed I have got so I can stand
the march very well, and carry my Hous, and cooking utensils
and rations well as any of them, Tell Father I am very
much Obliged to him for the money, soon as we are payed off.
I'll replace it, my respects to him and Mother, Grace Minerva
and saw a ration for your self. I the Ann is getting in
a berry! shed best to hold on a while, if she know which
side her Bread is buttered, give my respects to Aunt
Phebas family! remember me to them that thinks
enough to inquire, and Ed dont You think
of going in the Army, if You are (drafted) they
wount except of You, now remember what I told
You, dont drink, Tell Henry not to either.

This all for the present respects and good
wishes to you all.

and will soon as convenient

(direct to Beaufort)
South Carolina

Respect Yours
Orlando,
Pocotaligo S. C.

express they
might be for Sam
little changed up
day, but my things is
lovely when the boat hangs high