

Beaufort, S.C.

February 11, 1863

Dear Friends,

I am happy to inform you that we are once more safely quartered here in the town of Beaufort, S.C. We left Key West on Saturday last and arrived here on Monday night but did not disembark until yesterday morning. The voyage was somewhat stormy and all hands were seasick. Curses on it, it seems we cannot get used to it. I was very sick and did not get off my back for two days. However, now I feel first rate again as you always do after we get onshore. My men are all well but two. James Wolfe and C. F. Stuart were left behind the boat having started some time before they thought I would. They will be on the *Cosmopolitan* which will arrive this week.

We are on the eve of great events here. Twelve or fifteen thousand men under Gen. Foster are here to do some work but I understand a difficulty between and Hunter has delayed it. I cannot of course say whether or not but six companies will take a part but presume we will. However, I do not believe we will have much to do as the Iron Clads will [unreadable] a greater part of the work. However much we many like it, I should not be surprised if it were delayed some time.

We have strong hopes of having our four companies at Fort Jefferson relieved ere long. General Hunter has placed Col. Good in Command of the forces on Port Royal Island and so I think we can accomplish. Hunter told the Col. he would not do without us and so had us relieved at Key West. I should like to have stayed there awhile longer.

I told you in my last Bill Hendricks would remain on the Gulf. I was mistaken. The Col. ordered him along and he is with us.

Ed, Johnny Moonsch wishes you to ask Man Wilvirt if he received three dollars that he gave to Harry Wharton to forward to him for the Amerikaner some time in

November last. Johnny has heard nothing of it and he wished to know if it was received. The Amerikaner is sent to us but not mailed to Johnny.

A mail leaves in the morning. I must close. Corporal Bartlour has joined the company again. He is well but weak. Write soon and direct as heretofore to Beaufort, S.C. Love.

Yours,

Shindel