

Hd Qrs Left wing
In the Field near River
Feby 21 1865

I had not ought to let this Campaign go on with out writing some
We are making a Desolation of S.C. Since we left the Ferry on the S River
we have made rapid progress towards the land of Freedom and Abe Lincolns
Proclamations. Among other towns that is laid low "Columbia," the nest egg of
Secession is in ashes. The 20th AC did not go in to that place and it was burnt
worse than any town we have passed through. Yesterday morn we started from
Winnsboro where we staid the night before

The country up as far as Blackville is low and even but from there it
gradually runs to Mountains and as far as the eye can reach here it is a
succession of lofty hills. But the landscapes are of the most Beautiful description
So far we have had pleasant weather but to night it rains some but it is warm and
comfortable

Fayetteville N.C. March 12 1865

Dearest parents

It is exquisite happiness for me to sit and improve this 1st opportunity in
writing a few lines Dearest Home it seems to me this beautiful morning. I can
truly thank my kind heavenly father for mercies recieved and send to you all
sweetest love to all. This morning a clerk came to me and told me we could send
out mails to day so I jumped and commenced I shall not try to express my self
very much this morn but write a few lines to tell of my welfare &c We have made
the present position all right and Boats come up from Wilmington this morning

We had some little fighting before this place but our foragers took hold and
chased the Johnies away over the River

I am well and hope you may be too. The country was beautiful and quite
wealthy but war "where we have been" has made it a Desolation We came here
yesterday and expect to remain 3 or 4 days and then away we go to fulfill the
errand we came so far on we are as well provided for as could possibly be
expected For some time we have been marching with the 14th A.C.

The Heroes of Chickamauga are somewhat embittered against the 20th
because they find "Hookers feather bed soldiers" rather too much for them.
Fayetteville is quite a nice looking town and it is Strongly guarded to prevent
unnecessary ravages of our soldiers. Some time I will try and tell you more of our
grand Successful march through S.C. & N.C. Spring will either show another long
stride down hill of Lees army or Sherman gets one almighty thrashing

give Stella a sweet birthday kiss and remember me in kindest regards to all
enquiring friends

It is so long since I have written my hand is very unsteady Please excuse
as I know you will and I will close to write a few words elsewhere

[March 12, 1865 continued]

Yours in Love and Dutiful regard
Charlie

I do not know but it is useless for you to write but if you want to direct
Hd Qrs 20th AC
care of C.Q.M.