than ever to see you and our boy when the fight is over. but I do not expect to be able to go - more especially if Baker leaves the company. Good by Darling - much love and many kisses for you and our boy - Your old dear Hubert,

Barancas Florida
Nov 25th 1861

My Dear Darling

I wrote you last night and sent it off this morning - I was very tired and wrote hurriedly - I am able now to write more at leisure and to correct some things which were not correct in my last letter Capt Baker Judge Cochran Mr Wellborn and Jim McCrab reached here about day-light this morning - Baker has not yet taken command he is leaving every thing to me -
I wrote you last night that the enemy were firing at the Navy Yard - well they kept it up until about 4 o-clock this morning so the sentinals informed me - They then ceased and have not fired a gun to-day I presume they will open in the morning. The last shot fired from our side was about 12 last night and we have not fired a gun since - There was no fight at deer point as I wrote - Genl Bragg visited our battery this morning and told me there was no fight there - None of our men were killed in the Navy yard - Not much damage done in there so far - a few mules were killed - We

lost six men at McRee. Five of them were smothered by the bursting in of a rat hole. They were in there to protect themselves from the shot. a shell struck it and it caved in - One man was killed by cannon there - He is the only man killed in that way - seven are wounded - Genl Bragg is in the finest humor imaginable and compliments the 1st Regt highly - They occupy the post of danger and of honor and Bragg says they have sustained themselves well I do not feel the slightest apprehension about danger personally and I believe we have the best of the fight - I have seen several holes in the walls of Pickens and I believe we can batter them down I have two curiosities to send home one a shell conical and the other the same shape but solid - I will keep them and send them home the first chance I get - They are for Ma as ornaments for her front gate - Tell her that I have not forgotten the promise I made her when I left home I believe to send her a couple fired from Pickens - both there can be fixed up on the posts - I send them of different kinds for the sake of variety - or rather I expect to send them

To-day has not seemed at all like Sunday and I have to stop and think before I can realize it. Bill Darling we have waited and worked a long time for this fight and it has come at last. The first day the enemy fired very rapidly - the next not so fast. We have been shooting very slowly all the time. I think the enemy must be satisfied that it is no easy matter to silence our batteries. We drove the ships from McRae yesterday and our men say one of them is badly damaged. There are now five here in all - I think two of them however are only transports. We confidently look for the fight to commence early in the morning. Brown has been busy all day piling up sand bags that we have knocked down - and I suppose repairing damages generally. I am glad the fight has opened. I did not want to go home and say that I had not fired a gun at the enemy. I think now that I will have plenty to talk of when I go home - and that is the best part of it I expect to go home. Every one tells me I am looking so well - I feel in fine health and it would be a great shame for one of Brown's shells to knock

up such a healthy hardy man - I attribute a great deal to my temperance not only in drinking but in eating. I have seen a circular from Genl B Cragg (which would have been made public but for the fight) appealing in the strongest manner to the men of the Regt to reenlist - I have not determined exactly what I shall do - I have been spoken to by a prominent man in the Regt who expects to reenlist who desired me for Major of the Regt. I would like such a position very much - would prefer it to a Captaincy or a higher position - In fact if I could get that position in a good regiment for the war I would be perfectly satisfied But I must have some time to go and stay at home - I can't go in sight away without some privilege of that sort. I write you now Darling because I have a chance - If I do not write regularly you may know that I cannot - When the fight is over and we whip the Yankees I will await developments I expect I will get so full of military that I will lose some of my taste for civil pursuits - I don't believe I have thought of any love or that there was such a thing since I came here except military law - Baker has said nothing of his taking the Colonelcy of the new Regt. He wrote me before he left home that he would accept it - This fight may postpone the matter longer and perhaps altogether. Give my love to all and tell them not to be uneasy - I shall be more anxious

Mrs S. H. Dent
Care of Wm H Young Esqr
Columbus
Georgia