Barrancas Florida
Dec 30th 1861

My Love

Well my Darling I expect to-morrow to see Gen Bragg and then get a leave and go home. unless some-thing interferes to prevent I expect to leave the last of this week. I expect to be home in a week from to-day. and oh. darling how I long to be there I do not know yet how long a leave I shall get not less I think than thirty days and will take the other thirty some other time. It looks like a short time to be at home after twelve months absence. But my Love I think that the best. Then when I get you and the boy down here how well pleased I expect to be. I wonder how long this war will last. I am anxious for it to end so I can go home and stay with my darling my boy and all my kind friends That time will come my Love I feel it will come and that we will enjoy each other's soci-ety so much and be I trust con-

tented and happy. I have home longings now worse than ever. I do not think somehow that I am very well suited for public life. It is true I am in it and may continue in it. but I do not enjoy it. I would much oh! so much prefer a quiet happy home to all the splendors and empty honors of public life. I feel now that if I had enough to live on comfortably that I would prefer to retire from the active busy world and live with my darling and my boy. But it cannot be. I have not the means and if I had would it be right? Each man has his part to perform. We cannot live entirely for ourselves in the world. and although mine is and may continue a very humble part yet I must strive to perform it. What has put me in this moralizing humor? I do not know I expect romance is not all out of me yet. The romance of war may be but not the romance of life. Well enough of this. I must write of other things.

Smith is busy making out muster and pay rolls for to-morrow. I have done nothing to-day since 9 o'clock this morning. It is rather tiresome. Doing nothing is hard any time but it is especially hard when one is thinking of home and friends and a dear wife and a sweet boy all of whom that one is anxious to see. I could not stand to remain away from you and do nothing. I must have employment. I expect Baker will return to Eufaula and may be here before he takes command of his Regiment. Bill McIver is in as fine a humor as ever and very well. I am as hearty as ever. No more dyspepsia since I quit smoking and syrup. Our company is in good health we have only two men sick and they are not much sick. The men generally are very anxious to get home I am afraid there will be some disgraceful scenes when they do get home. I have heard not a very good account of some who have gone home. My time as J.P. will soon be out. I wonder

who will be elected in my place
Perhaps I can rent my office
to whoever it may be - Hardman
must give it up - I have written this
far and will wait until night
or to-morrow morning - It is now
10 o'clock and not feeling sleepy
I have concluded to finish this letter
I have nothing new to add - Perhaps
I may write to-morrow if I can find
out that I am going home I will
write and let you know otherwise
I may not write until the next
day - I will stop a day in Montgomery
I think as I want to attend to some
business there - I will remember
the baby's carriage and if there is
one there I will get it if I can
get money enough. well give my
love to all the family and tell them
I will be home as soon as I can
kiss the baby for me and with much
love to you and the boy and mom
kisses for my darling I must
say good by - Your old Dear
Aubert