

Camp in the woods, VA
Aug 10th 1863

Dear Sister

Your esteemed favor come to hand yesterday. I am glad to know that all are well and doing well. I cannot account for my letters not reaching home as I wrote frequently although not as often as befor we reached M.D. Our trip to PA was as it turnes out rather and unfortunate one but if Gen'l Lee had hav accomplished the object intended it would hav been a grand thing but perhaps it is the best as it is. At least we should be satisfied if Charleston falls. It is my opinion the war will close soon from the fact neither England nor France wishes the union as it was. I mearley give it as and opinion although it would be Very humiliating to South Carolinians and not only to them but the whole Confederacy---

We can not put any dependency in our own strength. It is from a higher power and a stronger one we must look to for help. You all must make the best of the preasant you can as we cannot tell what the futures will bring forth. I am glad to know that you hav and abundance of fruit I hope you will be able to enjoy it.

I wrote to John to pay all the debts that he could you will please notify him of it if my letter does not get my letter.

I suppose you hav heard of my promotion. I was not informed of it but as I was verrey well where I was but perhaps it will turn out for the best as there has been and Order to Send all able bodied men back to the ranks and if so I am all right I can get plenty to eat as I hav and opportunity of drawing 2 Rations.

You asked me about clothing. I am not in need of anything a preasant excep a pr of Shoes I wish them sent by the first opportunity 7 ½ is the Size wide bottom you can if you hav and opportunity Send me a linen towel, a piece of and old linen coat will answer also a knife and fork, small, give to Dr. William and get me a good tooth Bursh and save it until I order you to Send it to me—our army is increasing Rapidly. A great many returning from Hospitals & Willie High [Sligh?] came back on the 8th. I hav nothing more at preasant more than I wish to here from you often and you must never dispond Give my love to all the family and remember me to all Friends.

I Remain your affectionate Brother

Newt

Howdy to the Darkeys

Direct your letters
J. N. Martin
Kershaw Brigade
McLaws Division

Richmond VA