

Hilton Head S.C.
April 23/63

My Dear Cousin

Yours of the 17th came this morning. and I answer it immediately. sometimes I think that perhaps you may think that I write too often. I hardly can tell why I think so, but at times the thought will force itself upon me. If I was at home. and less exposed to danger. and death. I would suggest that we agree upon a stated time to write. but that would not do. under my present circumstances. for there is no regular mail. and I could not send or receive letters at the expected time, so I have concluded to answer your letters as soon as I receive them for fear I might not have another opportunity. The steamer that brought your letter. returns to NY in a day or two, and then I would not have another chance under a week or ten days. and before that time I may be -- in eternity. for we know not how soon we may be attacked by the Rebels or be called upon to make an attack upon them. I am inclined to think that our Regt will have to go to Charleston yet. The fist attack on Charleston was only to thy the strength of the parties. and see what could be done. I presume they will soon make another final attack. and I am afraid it will be a dreadful fight. I fear that a great many of our soldiers will be called to their last account. how solemn the thought. I have not applied for a commission in in a Negro Regt, on the contrary. have concluded not to. I think I had better be content to let "well enough alone." I am well acquainted with the Boys in this Regt and it will be better for me in case of sickness, than if I am with strangers. It is more difficult to get furloughs in this department, than it is in some others. than it would be in Virginia. Even Commissioned officers comment at present. perhaps after Charleston has been taken. it may not be so difficult. I only wish I could get one. but cannot. So "what cant be cured, must be endured." Capt Savage to the surprise of everyone. has returned and taken Command of this Company. of which I am a member. Please excuse this poor writing. and answer as soon as you please. the sooner the better. My love to Aunt and Cousins. Yours Affectionately Loper. L. M. Company G 115th Regt, Hilton Head S.C.