St. Marie P.O.
Beaufort - Carolina
January 30th 1863

Dear Sister,

I have received your letters of 23rd ultimo and 14th instant.

I suppose you have heard before now of the death of Asa A. Fletcher. He died about three weeks ago — it was abrupt and sudden. I was about on picket and had been ten days when he died. His remains were sent home.

You ask me when I think of this war. I think that it might have been ended long ago, if a sufficient number of Northerners would have shown their desire and determination to act as the South has been forced to act. The South has been forced to give the Union the advan-
traitors had been hanged. About every fourth man I should judge would be a proper candidate for the gallows. In some localities in greater proportion and in some less. City by city these traitors be disposed of in this manner and the Cowards lodged in prison. It would thus be a small job to dispose of the remainder of the Rebels. I say that the Rebels seem to whip in every battle. This is a mistake. The Union forces are victorious in more than half the battles, as you will see if you look up the facts. But a great many of our victories, prove to be of very little advantage to us. This is owing nearly to
what is called the "Rosenwalt policy" - we suffer much from West Point traitor generals but much more from traitors and cowards in the North. Those cowardly men that desert - from the army (and there are always such men in all armies) are sure to find a place of safety in the embrace of the Northern people. Those cowards who leave base, deserted the sides of their true companions, instead of being forced back by the scorn of indignant communities are concealed away from the officer who may be on their track for the sake of a reward in money. This is encouraging to the solider who is left to fight his own and his deserting comrades battle.
They are greatly encouraged by the free and uninterrupted circulation of Northern treason papers in the camp. They are mightily encouraged by the patriotic and heroic tone of public feeling exhibited by some of the Northern people. In fact they have everything to inspire them on to deeds of the most desperate valor.

Actually, I am speaking within bounds when I say that there are greater inducements to the overthrow of the rebellion in the North than in the South.

We still remain at our old camp, though we expect to leave soon. The Passaic, and Montauk, Ironclad, and Monitor, both of the Monitor pattern, there also.
The Monitor was on her way here when she was wrecked.

The idea here seems to be that there is to be an important movement made here soon.

We are ready—Company X especially. I have as fine a company as ever marched. There are just 97 men in the Company—fine looking and intelligent men. Most of them are young men from 18 to 25. They are well clothed and well drilled. And I take a great deal pride in having such a company.

The keep all well. Mr. Billo is hearty and amusing. Waterloo, Banters, Preacher, Bowen, P. Banters, and others.

From your brother,

[Signature]