

Head Quarters Detachment of the 8<sup>th</sup> <sup>Reg</sup> <sup>meas</sup>  
Dartmouth Island Feb 28 1862  
Dear Friend

I have just received  
your kind letter dated Feb 7<sup>th</sup> was  
very glad to hear from you. I know  
that all were well. I happy. You  
will see by the heading that I am not  
at Hilton Head. The reason is this  
five Com are detached. To build  
Batteries for the purpose of cutting  
off communication with Fort Mifflin  
Com H. was not included in this  
number, but still remain at the  
Head - which is the Head Quarters  
of the Reg. co firmly. I am here for  
the purpose of collecting a few defects  
shall return on the next day. sometime  
last Friday day one week ago I day  
the detachment has been here about  
a fortnight. This is one of the

loveliest place on Earth, it is warm,  
warm, rich, uncomfortable, flowers  
are in bloom, birds are singing in  
the groves a perfect Paradise on  
Earth, but is well - he enjoys this  
way of living, finely. I never saw  
him so fleshy before, poor Clara  
is dead - it seems like losing a brother  
to have one of the Deaps boys taken  
away, he died very quietly. & I hope is  
in Heaven. All communication with  
the school in the Fort is cut off - they  
must either starve or surrender,  
The sandy scrape which Lucy wished  
to know about, is still very fresh in my  
memory, tell Lucy, I hope to meet her  
again one of these days, at which  
time I will endeavor to tell the story  
much better than I can possibly  
do by mail - In regard to those  
love powders which Lucy Howard  
wishes me to send her - I hardly  
know what an answer to make, co-



I have been deprived of the society of  
the Fair ~~and~~ so long that I have  
lost love, friend & all, rather an  
embarrassing situation I'll admit - none  
the less true. I should very like to  
accommodate him, but under the present  
circumstances it would be impossible  
Poor Will. I pity him from the bottom  
of my heart. I suppose the boy has  
a dose of the faint ones or a string-  
beads, the little darling, back of  
the mountain, tell him he has the  
sympathy of all who understand  
the trying position in which he  
is placed - I had a letter from  
Norse some time ago, if I only had  
the letter with me I would answer  
it, for I have nothing else to do  
I feel rather home sick, for when  
I am with Ned we have some pretty  
good times, I would like much  
to be with you this winter, to  
take a part in some of those parties

dearest Ed. Tell Rosie I shall write to  
her soon. I presume they will  
be married soon. Tell him to send me  
a card. & a piece of cake. Give my  
love to Lucy & her when you write  
to her. Remember me to my sister & all  
the rest of the folks. Write often. While  
I remain ever your friend  
Edmund F. Fletcher

Enclosed is a Bequest for Leigge  
W.F.