

Wife. You have the perfect
love and devotion of
Your own

My Ever
affectionate

Love to all - In great
haste & Conried

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New Hope Bottom Church
Beaufort Dist. S.C. as
Jan'y 15. 1865

Yesterday morning my Darling I left
Charleston and reached Beaufort just in
time to find General Sherman comman-
ding his position and facing back
on the other side of the Salt Ketchikan
the Enemy advancing in heavy force
in the direction of Old Beaufort. -
As I had to see the general,
there was no time to be lost and
so I mounted my horse, and
taking Whitehead with me. I pushed
on to Crosswatches 7 miles distant
which point was being evacuated
at the same time. The night was
at first dark and the roads in
poor condition. We had to leave our
wagon & Comies behind as they could
not keep up. Arrived at Salt Ketchikan
Bridges just in time to pass over

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Charles Colcock Jones Sr. Papers

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before it was burned by our
Fire. - Harrison's H^os had been
fried and all these houses and
forming one in flames. the most
unpardonable act I have seen to
magnify a day or it gave
the Enemy absolute notice of our
Evacuation. - Poped through safely
although expecting for some time
to meet the Rebels at any
moment. and searched Graham
village about eleven P.M. Found
one Wheeler all packed up
for a moon. Warned by a
good fire and then took a
map of this town where at
two o'clock we were washed, and
all commenced a retreat for
Grahamsville in the direction of
Lawtonville. - How we arrived at
one P.M. I wish Wheeler would

have something to eat, as I have
had nothing since yesterday morn-
ing and the sun is now at
most setting. - I hope however that
some meat will be announced
before bed time. As we have been
on the road all day, exercise
must be made. I am here to
organize and inspect his command.
This will occupy me for perhaps
two weeks. At the end of that
time if the Enemy are not
pushing too closely I may return
to Chester by way of Annapolis.
You may be sure Darling that
I will do so if I can.
I am better than I have been
of late and will write you
Darest just as often as we
can communicate with the
mail. God bless you my sweet