No 2d Light Artillery
James Island Sept 15th 1863.

You will not view the accompanying "Plan of Battery Wagner" with a critic's eye but with, I think, my darling, half its imperfections by when you remember that it is my own work, and intended only for your lenient eye. I thought you would be interested in the conformation and details of a fort whose gallant defence has become historic for all time in the record of this gigantic struggle. The sketch, with the illustrations appended, will give you a very good and correct impression both of the construction and armament of that work. One of these happy days which, I hope, are in store for us in the future,

we may recur to it again, and I will then be able to point out to you everything of interest connected with the various localities of the Fort. Poor Wagner! The flag of the Enemy now floats from its dilapidated parapet, and hostile feet are insulting its almost sacred soil. - Our dead lie buried beneath its parade, and heroic memories dwell within its walls.

Your dear letter, my precious Eva, of the 9th. finished and sealed on the 10th reached me last night, and I cannot say how happy its coming made me. The fact is, your tender remembrances, darling, are the epochs of joy, which mark my existence here. I look forward from the present first received, to those which will follow with eager expectation, taking scarcely any note of the intermediate time except in so far as it must be employed in the discharge of duties monotonous and often quite uninteresting in their details. - You are always in my thoughts - never absent from my truest loves. - The highest privilege of my life is to love and cherish you my own Eva, and although I am not permitted nor in person to do so, your own heart will tell you, that I am in spirit ever with you, at all times loving you with a perfect, a changeless devotion - praying and wishing for you every protection and happiness, with a fervency which only the most faithful heart can feel. - and longing for that day, when these separations will end. - Your precious ring.

the darling little miniature, and the holy Bible you gave me, are with me each moment – living pledges of holiest affection – with which I would part only with my life. – Eva, I do not think there any union of hearts can be, or has ever been, more perfect, more tender, than that which exists between us. I cannot conceive of more unlimited love, fuller confidence, or more marked sympathy, and I bless God for the privilege of being able to keep our hearts always, as they now are the one to the other, feeling we write His Love, so that when our days on Earth are ended, our Souls – which know no separation here, – may be permitted an eternity of bliss together in that upper and better world.

Your dear letters, have, I think, all reached me, and I have never omitted to bless your sweet heart for them, and to acknowledge by letter their coming. I have written you Darling every day since I have been on the Island. In fact you will remember this has been my habit for months, and I will never omit it unless prevented by circumstances over which I have no control. – Do not feel concerned about Berrien. I presume he has already returned to his Scholastic duties, and that his absence was only temporary. And my dear, let me beg you not to dwell too constantly, or too sadly, upon fearful anticipations touching the future of our beloved Land. There is no disqui

being the fact that the crisis is upon us that the skies above us are very dark but let us at all times remember the justice of our cause, never not forget that there is a great God above who rules not by many or by few but by His own might. I do not believe that He will ever allow us to be finally overwhelmed by the Race of abolitionists infamous and infidel men infesting our land. The day of trial may be long and the night of our sorrow dark, but the morning will come and with it the light of a new national existence. Meanwhile we must humble ourselves before God, repenting sincerely of our many transgressions individual and national - fighting bravely

in His fear and expecting His favor. I believe under God that these re-enforcements of heroic men from the Army of Virginia which are now going forward to Gen Johnson, and arriving here, will, in a very short time, materially change the condition of affairs and restore public confidence. There is no disguising the fact however, that our present status - as disclosed by the telegrams of the morning - is any thing else but satisfactory. These continual "falling backs" are very depressing in their character. ... not below heroic action on the part of an invaded people. The true spirit however appears to dwell in the breasts of these war-worn veterans just from the enchanted fields of Virginia - and I hope that it will need its influences upon all with whom they are brought into association. -

~~How happy~~ Darling. ~~Cousin Pike will be~~ ~~to have you with him. Never have I~~ ~~seen true companionship and affection~~ ~~such as that which exists between you.~~ ~~We may expect cool weather soon. So~~ I trust you will experience no ill effects from your return. Dawson had no business to be so select about the matter of the "hams" - and I tell him so for his edification, that I have not seen the first particle of even "bacon", since I have been on the Island. It is a not-to-be-sad-about-de. But I believe we are all growing fat upon camp-food. - Certainly it is. we will before long, look so roughly, that it will require many days of in-door life to bring back the hue of civilization. But I like the brown upon the face of the Soldier in the field. It is honest. and conveys the idea of work. and becoming hardship.

There is but little change in the status of affairs here. Several of the Monitors have gone. It is presumed that they have returned to Port Royal for repairs, as they were pretty severely hammered during the recent attack upon our Sullivan Island Batteries. - Our Batteries on this Island maintain a deliberate, but steady fire upon the Enemy's works on Morris Island. - Since the Capture of Wagner and Gregg. no new Plans have been revealed by the Enemy. They may however be developed at any moment. - and when they are, there will be hot work. -

I must now Dearest, bid you good Morning, as I must be in my Saddle. - God bless and love you ever. You never can know how precious you are to me. but I hope all my life, to show you my Darling, that there is no one in the wide world who does, and will love you, so tenderly

and cherish you so dearly, as your own C. and there is no thought, no knowledge, so priceless to my soul as that I am beloved by my my darling Eva.

Remember me affectionately to Cousin Philo, and think of me always as your own, devoted,

Charles B. Smith

Miss Eva. B. Eve
Augusta. Geo.

C. C. Jones - Sept. 15. 1863.

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