

THE CITADEL Near Tusculumbia Ala.

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

Wednesday Nov. 9th 1864

My own dear Lottie -

We made a start on yesterday afternoon for the Tenn. but the incessant rain stopped me short. - It is now raining in torrents, with every prospect of a prolonged wet season. What a contrast to beautiful, bright October! It was really the most lovely month I ever experienced. -

Margaret started off on yesterday for Charleston. - She was illly clad, had no shoes, and I thought I would not take her on the Tenn. tramp. I sent you a letter by him, containing several spare envelopes, which I had in my Post-Box. I also sent my Roy account ^{for October} to the Dr. Master at Selma, who is a friend of mine, & asked him to cash it for me, and enclose one Hundred & Seventy five (\$175.) by mail to you. I trust that it may go safely. I think it

will in I fear, from your letter
sent me in the bundle; that you may
need money before this October remittance
reaches you. - I don't want you to
buy things for me, my darling wife,
with the money I send you. - It is
scarcely enough to supply yourself
and the children, and I desire
your wants met. - I am very com-
fortable, and doing very well indeed.
If I had my pants & boots (the
latter Minnie will bring, I am sure) I
would want for nothing.

1- P.M. A cold
wind has just sprung up from the
south, which may bring us the
sunshine. I hope it may. I send
this by Holmes, who goes to the sea
completely worn-up by our exposures
& fatigues. My own health is firm
& excellent. - What a great bless-
ing good health is! I am an-
noyed that I can do no

Love to the family - Father & only Mamma

studying - Every whit of my time is employed, & when we stop at day, or so, or delay a week, even, as we have done here, I am employed fixing up my command, and in a hundred little ways, officially, which consumes time. & I have all of the head work to do in my Dept. My officers are willing & ready, but incompetent. The ~~whole~~ weight of the import of ~~that~~ that word is pregnant with great issues. Incompetence! It is a vampire, every where in our Army - sucking the very life blood of all our efforts. Kiss my little darlings for their anxious father, & my dear little, my own precious, most cherished angel, accept the assurances of your Father's constant devotion. My God bless you -
Ellison