

Letter 9 to his father

Dear Farther

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Cowans Stations Tenn Aug 1st 63

Your letter of the 26th came to hand in due time and was received with pleasure I was glad to hear from you once more and to hear that you were all well for there is not a greater blessing than to have good health. We have no news here at the present time it appears that the eyes of the People are turned southward for Victory it appears that if Charleston falls the rebellion is pretty near at its end in the last six weeks there have been Mighty works done to end the rebellion the rebels have been defeated at every point where they attempted to make a stand it is my opinion that this war will close inside of 10 months I cannot see how they are going to hold much longer the country must be very desolate according to this part of the south Why our army has to feed the citizens every day there is some comes into the Commissary Department to draw rations so you can see the effects of war and of rebellion, if the inhabitants of the south is so destitute of food what will it be in one year after this why they will starve, and I think they are about as willing to bring this war to a close as we are they know that they are whipped but they will not give up they struck the first blow and they wish to strike the last but they are mistaken about that for our Government is not so easily backed out as that seems to if they think as I do the war would close in short order I say exterminate the whole south that would bring them to their feelings. Well as it is pretty near Dinner I will close in good health hoping you are of the same give my love to Mother and the rest of the family

I remain your affectionate son

R. C. Long