

Monday

St. Louis Island P. O.  
March 1<sup>st</sup> 1864

Dear Pa

I would have written to you ~~to~~  
yesterday. But I was too sick never more  
to in my life. I have a terrible boil in  
my face which headed just under the  
corner of my mouth. Which caused me to be  
sick all over and the worst head aches out.  
But to day I am free from pain almost,  
but feel badly of course will be all right  
in a day or two I think.

I looked all last week for a letter from  
home but didn't get one. I shall expect one  
to-morrow (usually is it mail day)

I wrote <sup>to you</sup> to Sam day ago. Also to Fannie which  
you both have <sup>seen</sup> before this time.

It seems as if the Yankees are failing all round  
at this time. Sherman's expedition anticipated with  
retreat to Vicksburg. Grimes's to Memphis  
and Sumner has whipped in. And we all  
know that Pickens has done nothing from Charleston  
yet and I don't believe he ever will.

I see by the papers that the "Albany Argus" ac-  
-nowledges the expedition <sup>as</sup> a complete failure  
and the siege is to be abandoned. I wish they would  
abandon the idea of ~~it~~ and give it up for

as it will be of 7:00 there and his eyes will only  
in one it out. So I can keep it until Gladney  
sends for it I could draw a Government Saddle  
and take either it or mine home but cant do so  
just now. A requisition for Saddles &c have been sent  
out and sent up for the Co. I will draw one the first  
Good ones that come.

I will close for this time.

Your Son John

D. S. Red tells me his wife writes him that she  
intends to call on you for advice about money matters  
taxes &c. If she does you must assist her as best as  
very friendly you see me at times as in he can see

You will find Mrs M. a fine lady in case she comes  
for you. You will greatly oblige Red by helping him as  
he is away from home, and wouldn't know what to do  
check him if he was there, and you cant make it do.

As Bob Sloan leaves the Camp for home in the morning  
I will send it to him, and in case he has luck will  
go to the "Bird" Wednesday at eleven (11) o'clock.

Sturgeon