

Camp 68th Reg. N. C. Troops
Fort Harbor, Feb. 20th 1865

Dear Mother

I write you again this morning in reference to coming over here and procuring my discharge; it will be necessary in order to get it for you to come over here and bring the Bible with you in which my age is in.

I have written you once before in regard to it, but for fear you did not receive it I write you again. I am quite unwell at present, caused by exposure, not having either a blanket or overcoat. Although Capt. Pamplin promised that he would do all he could to procure me a discharge as an unlimited furlough, now he has got me over here, he will not do anything for me, but on the contrary will not even write me an application for a discharge.

There is not anything in the way of news to
write you of importance, unless it is
that I think the Southern Confederacy is
about gone up, and I am very sorry to think
it is so, but I am forced to this opinion
from all I can see and hear. The soldiers are
deserting very fast from the army on account
of arming the negroes, and I cannot blame
them for so doing. Twenty-four from this
Regiment went two or three nights ago, and what
is more they were the very best men in the
Regiment. It is reported and generally believed that
seven hundred of Hook's men left him in open
daylight and marched right off; and beside
these we hear of many more cases almost as
bad. Nothing more at present, but hoping
that I may soon see you, I remain your
affectionate son, Richard Commander