

Saturday Morning September 19th 1863

Dear ^{and} Father & Mother

I take the present opportunity of writing you a few lines informing you the news & such like. affairs are just about as they were when you left Gloomy. the Enemy on the opposite side of the River. show themselves very plainly at certain times. I cant give any idee whether they intend to fight us or not. as you have been here & know how things are. you can give a guess. there may not be any advance in a week or more. or they may fight it out before then. we are at the very place you left us. but liable to move at any time. I will write you again the first of next week if nothing prevents more then I know at present. It will take this with luck to the last of next week to reach you and I know you will look for one then. the air is some cooler this morning then it was when you was here. it ^{is} rain very heavy yesterday. The news from Charleston is about so we have a report in Court that Genl Bragg has whipped old Roanoke. I hope it is so. a Soldier brought in from

Richmond. You must write me when you get home
and how you made out on the way, with luck the
way we was counting you will reach home this Even
I hope you will safely. I no they all will be eager
to hear you relate over your travails. &c
I hope to have more to write the next time. So nothing more

John Mc Lancaster

Mother. I feel that I must say something
about those nice cloths & things you sent. me
they suited me in every respect, and thankful am I that I can
say that I have a good Mother, who takes a delight in min-
istering to the wants of her boys even if they are far from
home & in the way. Till I hope the day is rolling fast-
when we all can be permitted to sit around the old
homestead and family circle as we have done in time
past. I feel that the debt I owe the cannot be paid in
this world by this worthless trap. I hope there are a brighter
day awaiting us all. I hope to go & see you all better
now and Christmas if life last. and I can possible
get off on any fair terms. Tell Norman & Jacob that
I will write them next time just as soon as I can
get something to write. Oh Norman I expect you have
lost Deborah, if I was you I would not like it. you say
that her father has sold her land. &c. nothing more

John Mc Lancaster