

U.S. Ship Powhatan
off Charleston S.C. May 31/46

Dear Sister

I received your letter and was glad to hear you were
are well. so this leaves me at present in the enjoyment of good
health. I have not much to say as nothing of account has
transpired since I last wrote to you. except the capturing of
a small schooner, which we took some two weeks ago. but this
capturing vessels is such a common thing down here that no
body takes any notice of it now. unless we happen to take a
large steamer. To day the flags are all displayed at half mast
for one of the sailors on the Commodore who fell from the rigging
and killed himself. I have just been offered a good
situation as school teacher, to learn the boys to read and
cipher, for this job I would get ~~made~~ as a petty officer
and be excused from all other duty. but as I come to sea
for exercise as well as to fight for my country I thought
best to refuse it. You say you would like to send me your
Photograph if I would just hint to you that I wanted it
I should have asked for all of your pictures long before this
but I knew how times were in Manayunk. and I did not
think you had the money to spare to have them taken. I only
wish to god I could draw some money to send to mother
for I know she needs it. but I cannot do it. That
is all I worry about. and if I had known it before I shipped
I would have went in the Army where I could have sent
for my monthly pay, I often think if I got a chance I'd
run away and go in the Army just on that account for
I could serve my country just as well in one as in the other

My Love to all
From Your affectionate Brother
C. W. Thomas
Please write soon

You speak of Adam's picture. I did not get it

Well I hope I am writing
sincerely for you
Wm. W. Thomas