Port Royal S,C, Feb7th, 1864

Dr Mother

Yours of the 24th arrived here Feb. 5th and I will now try to answer it. I do not write as often as you do and that is the reason that you do not get a letter as often as I do. I get one every week regular. There is not much news except that an expedition has started out from this Island destination unknown. Some say to Florida, some say to Pocataligo but we shall not know till the time comes but I rather think some one will get hurt.

You wrote that the town had voted the Bounty and I think that it would be well to let it remain in the Treasury as Jo says. I see by the Journal that Mansfield has filled her quota. How did she do it? We have not been paid yet but the Paymaster Clerk was in our room a few days ago. He said that the Pay Rolls were all made out to pay us, but there was not money enough to do it. He thought that we should get it about the first of March. Some of the prisoners here have received their sentence. Some of them get 3 years ball & chain at hard labor on the Tortugas and their pay stoped. Those that robbed coming down on the boat, rather tough but serves them right. We have some pretty ugly customers here to deal with. Sarah sent me a one dollar note, but it will not pass here so I will send it in this letter and you can do what you are a mind to with it. I have got some change, it will do me till pay day.

I do not think of anything more at present to write. How does Tomis Swaller get along. I guess I shall have to write him a letter by by. Does he help fodder, tell him he musn’t throw any more snow balls at Dea. Sam.

This from Ed

P.S (Father – put it safe place. The Select Men can hand the order to.)