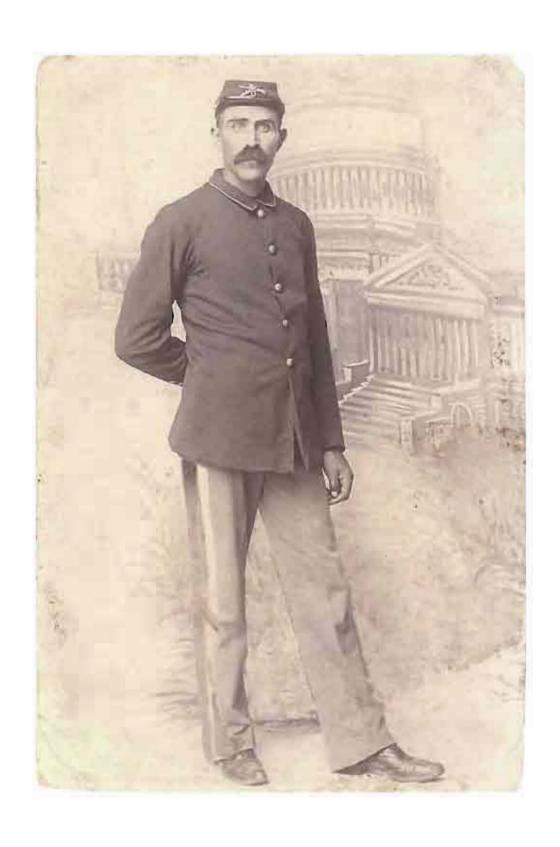
Burton L. Rider

# Spanish American war Letters

1898



Cedar Lake Cemetery, Herkimer County, N.Y.



Burton Lo. Rosider

# The Spanish American war - 1898-1902



"Remember the Maine"

The war started with the Cuban struggle for independence from Spain. The U.S. sent the Battleship Maine to protect American interests in Cuba. After a deadly on-board explosion, killing all aboard, the Battleship Maine sank in Havana Harbor on February 15, 1898. The U.S. Congress declared war On April 25, 1898. The war covered the Philippine Islands, Cuba and Porto Rico. Combat lasted 10 weeks. In the Philippines, Commodore George Dewey sailed into Manila harbor on May 1 and destroyed the old out of date Spanish fleet. Re-enforced by the Army under Major General Weslsey Merritt, Manila was occupied on August 13. 1898. The Navy seized Guam and Wake islands and Congress annexed Hawaii.

In the Caribbean, U.S. troops under General Shafter landed in Cuba in late June. These forces included regular soldiers as well as volunteers. The most famous being Theodore Roosevelt and his Rough Riders and his charge up San Juan Hill. On July 3, the Spanish Admital Cervera made a dash for the open sea out of Santiago de Cuba (Havana) harbor. The guns of Rear Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley sank most of the Spanish fleet in less than 4 hours. On July 17, Santiago and Cuba's troops surrendered. Madrid sued for peace 9 days later.

The regular Army had only 28,000 men when the war broke out. The National Guard numbered 100,000. Congress authorized a twofold increase in the size of the Army and an initial enlistment of 125,000 volunteers. Burton L. Rider was one of those volunteers.

When he departed Oswego he left with these issued items:
Campaign hat & cap
Blue shirts and trousers
Knapsack, Haversack
Canteen & forty rounds of ammunition
In his Knapsack he carried:
2 suits of underwear, 2 extra socks
Extra pair of shoes
Soap, towels, & other toilet supplies
On top: Rubber pouch & overcoat
Plus 5 days rations



# Burton L. Rider

48<sup>th</sup> Separate Company Company D. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, 2<sup>nd</sup> Army Corps Major Albert M. Hall, C. O. Captain H. D. Tifft Lieutenant Fred L. Plattburg Sergeant William J. Dunn

On May 1, 1898, he left the East Side Armory in Oswego matching to the R. W. & O. Railway Depot on W. First & Utica St. to depart for Camp Black. He arrived at Camp Black, Hempstead, Long Island, N.Y. on May 3. He was there until May 28 when he took a train from Hempstead, Long Island, a Ferry to Jersey City, a train to Philadelphia through Washington D.C. to Dunn Loring, Va. which is 9 miles out of Washington D.C. He was at Camp Russell A. Alger, Dunn Loring from May 29 to August 18 when he left for Falls Church, Va. He was then sent through Washington D.C. and Baltimore through York to Pittsburgh and finally on August 20 to Camp Meade in Middletown, Pa. which is outside of Harrisburg. After September 11 he left Camp Meade for home. He was officially mustered out December 1, 1898.

# B. L. Rider's letters home

# during the Spanish American War

These are letters from Burton Lynn Rider while in the U.S Volunteer Army during the Spanish American War - 1898 to 1902. He enlisted on February 26, 1898, volunteering for two years. He was 35 years old with a wife, Laura and two children, Lillie (11 years) and baby Ethel (10 months). He left Oswego on May 1 and returned in mid September 1898. He was officially discharged December 1, 1898. Mary Rider, my mother, the youngest daughter was born in 1900, two years after his return. Laura was living in Menitto, Oswego County, New York. She also had an address at Sanquoit, Oneda County and Cedar Lake, Herkermer County, New York.

These are some of the letters he wrote to Laura, Lillie and Charlie. They are as verbatim as we could make them. His handwriting was a challenge at times. He had very long sentences with no punctuation, which we broke up with periods and comas for clarity. The grammar was left as is. We did change some spelling such as furlow to furlough, and gard to guard. Frequently he dropped the last letter of his words. We corrected these for ease of reading and understanding. He wrote home regarding a soldier's life in camp. The letters contain personal and interesting thoughts, feelings and questions. Most of the time he was placed in charge of the commissary for his Company. He was worried about income for Laura and was very aware of money matters and Army pay. He washed clothing for the men in camp to earn extra money, which he constantly sent home. typical soldier as he was homesick, lonesome, angry, hot, cold and at times unhappy with his duty, the officers and in general the Army. Most of the letters were written in pencil. Paper was also scarce, so he used every bit of space available.

The italicized areas in brackets are our best guess as to what he wrote and dates of the letters. The numbers in parenthesis (#) refer to the pages 2, 3, etc. in the letters.

He started most of his letters with "Dear Wife and Children", "Dear Family & Friends". He signed off with his initials "BLR" or "BL Rider". Charlie was a border and had worked with him in the factory. Ben was their dog.

1 Burt Underwood 2004

# **LETTERS**

May 2, 1898

Monday Morning 9:30

Dear Family and friends

We are here on the train waiting to go to Hempstead. Nothing of important yet. Had a good sleep last night. There was a big farm all along the road until we left Utica. We did not stop until we got to Albany. We had sandwich & coffee for supper & coffee & sandwich for breakfast. In our comfort sack from Mrs. Oliphant we got a pad, Bible, comb, needles, thread, buttons, chewing gum, paper & tobacco, looking glass, yarn, bandage, pins,

(2) matches & safe envelopes, pencil and a number of other small articles. We are going to start now and I can't write any more this time. Remember me to all. All well and feeling well. Good by. BL Rider. P.S. Don't write until you hear from me again. BLR Engine just jumped the track no one hurt.

May 3, 1898

Address Camp Black, Hempstead

Camp Black

Dear Family, tuesday, May 3,

My Birthday. I am all right yet. I am on guard duty today. Our company is under special orders. We are all packed ready to start in five minutes and are under orders to that effect. There are 9,000 men here. Had a good sleep last night. We are on a plain 15 miles long and 13 miles wide and can see from one end to the other. We are at the south west corner. The tents are as straight as you can draw a line. We had meat, potatoes,

- (2) coffee, bread & butter & C. Everyone seems to be happy. We are drawing state pay \$1.25 a day. Horns, drums and fifes going some where all the time. We had two hours drill this morning. You will get all the news concerning our Company in the Palladium. We have just had received orders to get ready to move. Don't know where we are going. Address as above. Good by. BLR.
- (3) Thank for the pictures. Did not know they were here until this morning?

(Sideways on letter)

1 cup sugar

1 egg beat good, (light)

2 tablespoons lard

1 cup sweet milk

1 teaspoon soda in milk

2 teaspoons cream tarter in flour

Put through sifter (little) salt put in two round tins

#### May 5, 1898

Camp Black 48th Separate Co. Long Island Company D

#### Dear Family & all

I am in my tent. Have just had my dinner. I have been on guard duty since 9 o'clock Wednesday morning so I did not have time to write yesterday. We are all well and happy as can be under the circumstances. We don't know how long we will stay here. You must not look for a letter from me every day as my supply may run out. But if any thing turns up of important I will let you know. We are busy the most of the time. It is Company drill in the morning 6:30. Regimental

- (2) drill at 8 o'clock for 2 hours. Battalion at 2:00pm. Every man is obliged to be in his tent at 10 o'clock p.m. Lights out at 11. There are 13 in our tent. I had the first good (was) today. Since I left home not one of our men have had a letter from home yet. I guess they are all glad to get rid of us. This place is over run by peddlers. The boys will take a mans rig away from them and run it in camp. Take what they have, unhitch the horse and let it go. I can't think of much to write today. I am to tired and sleepy to think of any thing. I wish you could see us as we are here. It is a sight. There is somewhere about
- (3) a thousand acres that is covered with tents and is level so we can see from one end to the end. A number of our men run guard last night and are under arrest today. None of Minetto have been in trouble yet. I am the first of Minetto boys to serve as guard. We get lots of papers. Received the Oswego paper today for the first. I promised to write to Jim Mc Laughlin. Tell him when you see him I will do so when I am feeling better than I do today. Write when you can. Let me know if any thing happens. Love to all. Let Charlie read all my letters if he wants to.
- (4) BL Rider. Write to our folks and give them my address and tell them to write to me but do not look for an answer very soon.

#### May (11 or 18), 1898

(Due to subject matter, letter was written on Wednesday, the 11th or 18th)

#### Wednesday morning

Have just been to breakfast all well. I received a letter from Charlie Smith last night. If you get a chance tell him or send word to him that Stofie was rejected and there is no sickness in camp and that we get all we want to eat such as it is. It is not pie, cake and the like but is good solid food, good enough for any poor man to live on. I will write to him soon. Lillie you must not scold Ben. Tell him to be good and I will send him some Spaniard meat. How are the chickens coming on and have you set any more hens? Drill call sounded, good by.

(2) Kiss Baby for me also your mother and hope for my return. B.L. Rider. Remember the address Company D, 3<sup>rd</sup> Pro regiment, Camp Black, Long Island.

# May 24, 1898 Camp Black

#### Dear Wife & Children

I have just received your welcome letter and was very glad to hear from you. It found me well and cutting meat for dinner and that is no fun to cut enough for 96 men and suit them all. I have charge of the commissary department for our Company now. I have one man over me and three under me. I am busy the most of the time. We had roast beef, boiled potatoes, coffee, hard tack, onions and cheese, baked beans yesterday. I don't have any more guard duty now and no drilling to do now and I have four to 10 prisoners to keep busy the most of the time. I have none today. Only four arrested last

- (2) night but none from our Company. Yesterday was a very rainy day also last night so there was not many that run the guard. It is a cloudy day today but don't rain. The men here talks a great deal about Dake and the others too. But Dake is the worst. He done so much talking before he came down here. I had a long talk with Major Hall yesterday. He says there has been money raised for the support of the soldiers families and you should have your share. If you need it let me know. We haven't received our pay yet but as soon as I do I will send it to you and then if I need any thing I will let you know. Money is very scarce in camp now. There is lots of beer & whiskey drank here but am happy to say
- (3) I do not care for it nor haven't drank any only once. And that was some hot whiskey one night when I was not feeling well. I think I told you about my being sick but am all right now. I wish you could come and see. It makes me feel home sick to see other peoples friends come to see them but none come to see me but I know the cost would be to great for you to do so. Tell Charlie my letters are to him as much as you wish to tell him. I have but little time to write or I would write to him. I have written to Jim twice. Charlie Smith wrote to me and I answered him and wrote to Father once and told him to send his letters to you and you would send them on to me so we could both get the benefit of them. I don't know
- (4) what to say to you about Lillie taking music lessons. I should like to have her take them right along if we can stand the bill. I think Charlie has done pretty well to get the side hill planted and work so much nights. Have you set out the geraniums yet? And has the flower seed come up & the dahlias? I think Ben must think a great deal of the baby. How I wish I could see her if I am gone two years she will not know me at all. Get one of my pictures I had taken the day I left and show it to her and tell her who it is. I would like one myself but can't afford it. You can get one or more just as you wish. They were taken over

(Up side) (Huinkles) drug store or some where near

(Top of this page upside down) there. I hope Lillie don't cry for me any more. Tell her she must not as there is nothing to cry for yet. I am well and all right but will not know what to do if I should have a chance to sit at a table to eat if I am a soldier for 2 years.

(Above previous writing upside down) I will send you some hard tack some time when I get a box to put it in.

(Continued on side of page) Good by and a kiss. BLR
(Bottom side of first page) Well this sheet is about full and I will have to
(Side of page upside down to top of page) close for this time. Send me a few stamps
if you can. Kiss baby & Lillie every night and tell them not to forget their
unworthy father or how to go to bed. My bed now is a bundle of straw
and an army blanket to cover with. I haven't had my clothes off since I
came away from home. I do my own washing and mending. I have to
wash my shirt, drawers and socks tomorrow if it clears up so I can.

## May (24), 1898

Camp Black, Thursday (Thursday was the 26th, he marked it as the 24th)

#### My Dear Wife & Children

I received a letter from you last night that was written May 4. You must be sure and put the no. of the Regiment on or they are apt to get lost. Our Reg. is No 3. There is a Company D in nearly every Reg. We received orders to go to Dunn Loring, Virginia was to go today but it is raining so hard it has been put over until tomorrow at 2 o'clock. So don't write again until you hear from me again. It rained all night and hard to. Some of the tents are afloat. Ours is all right yet but the water is raising fast.

- (2) I am wet to the skin now and have to get out to see about dinner soon. The boys made a kick this morning because they did not get much of a breakfast. I worked until half past eleven last night packing up stuff to move. Will have to unpack some of it for supper, have enough for dinner out. We had only hard tack and coffee for breakfast. Some of the boys thought they ought to have something extra because it rained. 2 of the cooks or my assistants would not get out and help about the breakfast so I had to get out in the rain and see to it my self and got good and wet but I have a change of clothing when it clears off that are dry. Don't worry about me
- (3) for I am all right. I done a small washing yesterday towels, handkerchiefs & c and they are wet yet don't know when they will get dry. There is no starching and ironing here. It is (was) get them dry if you can and put them on when you have to. I sent you a small box yesterday in care of Minetto Shade Cloth Company so it would go to Minetto and you would not have to go to Oswego for it. I did not pay Ex. charges because I had no money. You will find hard tack, books and 2 sets of cross guns. Send one set to Elmer. I would have sent them from but could not get anything to pack them in. The books was for Charlie to read and let him keep them if you don't want them. I also sent one to him by mail last night. We have lots of them
- (4) and they only get destroyed after they are read so I sent them home. I like to have Jim W. get them if he can to read. Tell him I think of him every day as if he was the only friend I had out side of my family. I think of my wife and children a great many times a day. I would like it very much if I were where I could step in and see them today. I can imagine I see Ethel at the table with her face covered with potatoes and grease. And Lillie by the side of her hiding the potatoes on the inside of her face

and her mother on the other side and Charlie in his place in front of the stove with the cat in the chair

(up side) by his side. Ben on the floor looking for crumbs from Ethel.

- (Top of this page upside down) But where is her father? He is in his tent sitting on the straw with the tears running down his cheeks. A writing home and wondering if he will ever see them again but I would give all I ever expect to have than to know I would never see
- (Top of first page upside down) them again. Now my Dear, hope and pray for my return which I think will come in time unless sickness prevents for I don't think we will ever go to battle. Forgive me for any thing I have written and good by. Kiss Baby & Lillie for me. Don't let Lillie cry for me

(Top of page three upside down) if you can stop her. I am not worth crying for. Take good care of her & Baby and yourself. Don't work

(Top of page two upside down) to hard if you will go out to work. Make them pay you for what you do. Good by and kisses for all. BLR.

#### May 29, 1898

Dunn Loring Vermont 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, N.Y. Vol.'s, Company D

#### Dear Wife & Children

We broke camp yesterday, Saturday at 9 o'clock arrived in Long Island City at 2 o'clock. Took the ferry boat and was transferred to Jersey City where we took the train at 6 o'clock and arrived at Philadelphia at 11:30. Arrived in Washington at 5 o'clock this morning and at Dunn Loring, 9 miles out of Washington and just over the line in Virginia, at 6 o'clock after which we had a 5 mile march in heavy marching order. When we got here we

- (2) were pretty well faged. It is very warm and there is a hard thunder storm raging now and some of the boys are out in it without a rag on. We are in our tents with our guns and the lighting is flashing and the thunder cracking. I am standing up and writing. The water is running right through our tent. We have nothing but the ground to lay on but we have our rubber blankets to put under us. We have regiments from all over the United States. Well I must close for this time. Spell Dunn Loring with two n's.
- (3) I would like to see you all tonight. Kiss the children for me lots of times. Send my address to Charlie Smith & Rob Peasey as they want to write to me. Good night my Dear wife & Children. Write as soon as you can for I am so home sick to see you. I will write again as soon as I can. Took a bath today will have to work tomorrow. Well good by once more my Dears. Kisses for you all. BLRider

#### May 30, 1898 Dunn Loring VA.

#### Dear Wife & Children

I wrote a few lines to you last night but as you will see it was under difficulties. It is very warm here today and the men feel the heat very much as it has been so cold and wet where we were. There is soldiers here

- from all over the U.S. A Reg. from Missouri landed here today. There is no telling how many men there are here but to give a guess I should say there was 800,000 to 1,000,000 men. The camp covers hundreds of acres but it not level as it was on L.I. and there are lots of woods. The lighting struck a number
- (2) of trees near our camp last night. The men are digging ditches and cutting under brush in the woods making roads, digging a well, sink holes for slop and most everything you could think of. One of our men went to Oswego last Friday to his father's funeral. Said he was going to Minetto. I told him to go and see Charley and he said he would. We are all well in our company except once in a while a head ache. A man in one of the Massachusetts Reg. died this morning. Cause not known. 3 Spanish spies have been captured. One of them escaped and was found hanging by the neck to a tree in the woods this morning. It is also reported that some one from the Michigan Reg. was court marshaled and shot
- (3) this morning at sun rise. I am at my old job but have to do a little more work as one of the men has been taken from our gang. We will have boiled rice for supper. All of our water has to be boiled before we can use it to drink. The next thing is to cool it again after boiling. I have the picture before me as I am writing. It seems as if you were all looking right at me and I think the baby is making a bow to me. Lillie is laughing and you look as if you were going to kiss me. Anyway you all look very pleasant and good to me. Oh how I wish I could see you. News papers are scarce here. Haven't seen one since we landed here so don't know what the war news is but I did hear today that Spain
- (4) was ready to sign articles of peace but don't know anything about it. One can hear lots here. What is Will McCrays address? If you know, write to him and tell him where I am and maybe he will come and see me. It is not far to Washington from here. I don't know whete Ed is. I haven't seen him since morning but is around some where. Well Laura my dear, I am well and as happy as can be under the circumstances. But knowing what I do about soldiers life, I don't think I would volunteer again. Although it is not hard work as far as work goes but it is very unpleasant to be away

(Up side) from friends and family. Done my washing this morning

- (Top of last page sideways) and sleeping out doors on the ground with clothes on and a stone for a pillow or none at all. Well my Dears, I have to see to the supper so will have to close. I had something to say to you this morning but it is gone from me now.
- (Top of first page sideways) Tell Jim W. my address and tell him to write. Did you get the ex. package and did C get the book? Good by, kiss children for me every night and remember me in your prayers from your unfaithful partner. BLRider
- (Side of third page) Remember me to Dave tell him I will write sometime (Top of page three upside down) Remember the address Dunn Loring 3 Reg. N.Y. Volunteers Company D
- (Page two across the top upside down) Remember me to Mr. Edwards, (Rappalye) & Burt when you seen them. Don't know where the
- (Top of third page upside down) music is if it ain't in the drawer.

(Side of second page) Kisses for the children remember me to Mrs. Peavey & family. Also Charlie.

#### June 4, 1898

Camp Alger, Dunn Loring, Virginia Dear Wife & Children

I received your letter just before dinner and was glad to hear from you but very sorry you are discouraged. You must not let your feelings get a way from you. Keep cheerful and think of the time when I shall come home which I think will be sometime. Am very sorry to hear that Lillie is sick. Hope she is all right by this time. How I would like to see you all. The babe will not look the same to me as she did when I came away. The last time I saw her was the sunday I came back. She was asleep in the crib in our bed room. I kissed her no less than a dozens times

(2) and tried to wake her up but she would not by my kissing her. How I wish I had woken her up now. I have your picture where I can look at them while I am writing. They look better to me every time I look at them. I wish you could afford to have them all taken together with Ben in and send them to me but as money is so scarce perhaps you had better not but nothing would do me more good. I am in the same position I was the last time I wrote. Don't worry about my working to hard. I am at work from 4 in the morning until from 7 to 10 at night but my work is not hard labor. It is more head work than anything else but I am busy the most of the time. I think you done just right to go for money. Maj. Hall says the money is there for the aid of the soldiers

(Up the side of letter) family and it is all right that you should get yours.

(Upside down, top of this page) Hear it is reported that one man's family is getting \$7.50 a week and every week. Another man told me himself that his wife had received \$20.00 since he came away.

(Upside down, bottom of this page) I have only one more envelope so don't be scared if you don't hear from me. Wrote to Leon yesterday.

(Top of first page sideways) Why didn't Father want you to send his letter to me? Tell him to write to me and give him the address. Carrie is very kind but do you think it would hold out if you were to go there? I don't know for certain but I think we well get our pay soon. I don't want any money. Will use a little to buy some envelopes & paper. I don't need any thing else. Some of the boys have every thing that comes along and at the

(Up side) same time I presume their families need the money (Across top upside down) they are spending.
(Bottom of page upside down) Think I will send another book to Charlie.

June (5 or 6), 1898 (No date on letter, best guess as to subject material)
Camp Alger (2 sheets, 4 pages – first of letter missing)

(3)... (Marked 3) for strawberries, cigars, milk, beer & whiskey and lots of other stuff they can get along without. I see by the papers that the boys are bare footed but that is not true. Some of them have poor shoes but if they would spend their money for shoes instead of the luxuries I have named, they would be better off and besides the Government allows them

\$45.00 for the first six months for clothing, shoes & C. And they will go with out such things for the sake of getting the money to blow in. I am going to do the same thing except the blowing in part and I will blow that part to my Dear ones at home who need it more than I

(Up side) need beer or strawberries.

- (Top of page) I don't need any clothes as I have more clothes than when I came here. The boys wear a shirt for a couple of weeks until it gets dirty and then they will throw it away rather than wash it. I have my new blue shirts packed away in my pack and I have 2 that I wear every day, one gray and one blue both are wool and not a
- (4) hole in them now. One of them had a small hole in the elbow but I put a patch on so it is all right. I also have a new fine shirt that has only been worn 4 days and 2 good woolen wrappers. One of them has a small tear on the shoulder but they are hardly worn at all. All are washed and in my pack but it is to big a load to carry very far. If we are called out on a long march, I shall have to throw them away but if we go to Fort Meyer as the talk is we will. I shall try to carry them with me. I also have 5 pairs of woolen stockings all mended and ready to put on. I shall have to get some yarn to darn with before long. I have a woolen sock that I think I can ravel out to mend with and save buying yarn. There is a barrel going from here to the armory and there is a bundle of hard tack in it for you. Tell Charles Perry to get it for you

(Up side) when he goes down to drill.

(5) Either S. M. Tift or (O donel) will have it. The man who went home to his fathers funeral came back last night. It is very warm here, 125 in the sun and 108 in the shade yesterday at noon. Our Regiment is to have 64 mules and 16 Army wagons. A team of mules is 4 mules. And each Company is to have a team and one wagon. Uncle Sam has 12,000 mules and a wagon to every team of 4 mules stationed at Dunn Loring. Dr. Jones is very kind not to charge for the medicine. Laura Dear, when you get the money from me get yourself some new shoes yourselve a new hat & dress and

(Up side) trust in the Lord for the rest

- (Top of page upside down) and I think we will come out all right. I will send the money as soon as I can get it. Tell Charlie not to work to hard. I am glad to hear he is so kind to you and takes such an interest in things. It does not seem possible that my little baby is walking instead of pushing herself around with one foot.
- (6) Don't let Lottie have the tools if it is a going to make Charlie mad. For what would you do if he was not there? I received a letter from Jim last tuesday and answered the same day. I am so glad to hear from home that I answer as soon as possible after receiving them. You done all right in asking for help. Get all you can. Major hall says it is there for you and you should have it. If you don't get it without asking, ask for it and don't let it go because I send you what I get. As all I send you is what I call love money and not wages. Never mind your conscience. Major Hall says it is yours and no one elses. Tell Lillie to write and tell me all about the cow, chickens, pigs, dog and every thing and every body. Don't send any money could not

(Up side) use it if you did as long as you need shoes and C so bad.

(Top of page upside down) Well I shall have to close and see about the supper. Write as often as possible and good cheerful letters. Something that will make me happy enough to cry for joy rather than (Above the last) for sorrow. Kiss the children for me and (Right side up) pray for health and a safe return to my loved ones at home. Your lovingly, B.L.R.

(Tuesday was the 7th, he marked it as the 6th) June (6), 1898 (7 sheets, 14 pages) Dunn Loring

Dear Wife & Children, Charlie & Mr. & Mrs. Kosboth Tuesday afternoon 2:pm finds me well and my work so I can leave it for a while so will talk with you for a while. We are getting a little short on our

rations and I have to figure pretty close to make them hold out. We have two more days yet before we get any more and all I have left is one side of bacon, about 50 loaves of bread & 450 lbs. of hard tack, 10 lbs. coffee.

We have no potatoes, rice or canned good of any kind. We received a cheese from Oswego Saturday night. I am afraid

we will go hungry before we get an other issue. We get fresh beef every three days. We got some today and have it all on the fire a roasting now and have to keep running and looking at it to see that it don't burn. It is quite a job to cook for 94 men. We have 3 bbls. of flour but it is of no use to us as we can only make flour gravy out of it. We don't have sour milk, butter and the like to make biscuits. We have baking powder but none of us knows how to use it. We have to bring our water about 2 miles in pails and boilers but there is a steam drill just come into our camp this afternoon so I think we will have water now soon. We dug a well and got water but is pumped dry the most of the time. Some one

is at it all the time. It is about 15 feet deep and has about 10 feet of water in it every morning but it don't last long when they all go for it to get breakfast. We have plenty of water to wash in. There is a creek about 200 feet from our tent but there is some one in it from 6 o'clock in the morning until 9 at night. Arthur Owens has been sick and was in the hospital but came home this morning but is not very well yet. Says he would die if he stayed their long. Says it is the worst place he ever saw to put a sick person. They preformed an operation on a man there sunday and the man never moved and was dead in 5 minutes after they commenced on him. One of our men are there now sick with malaria fever. Owens says a well man can go there and he will be sick inside of 24 hours. The men

(4) don't get anything to eat in the first place and then there are so many there. And the weather is so warm that there is an awful stink there all the time and the nurses will wash a dozen men out of the same dish and the same water. Owens said that a man from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reg. of Michigan caught some disease in his eyes and is stone blind and will be the remainder of his days. I sent a letter to U.S.C. co Band this morning. The officers of our Regiment are talking of organizing a band out of members of the Regiment. Major Hall sent for me last night he wants me to go in

- the band but has said so many times I would never get in another band if I ever got out of this one. I don't know
- (5) what I shall do about it. He says I will have a much easier time and will get out of my present trouble cooking. Will not have to do any thing only tend to practice and play at concerts and dress parade, guard (mount) and inspections. The latter comes about once in ten days or 2 weeks but will not occur on Sunday any more. The officers got a calling from the war department for making the men get out for inspection & dress parade on sunday. I haven't known what sunday was since I left home when we were at Camp Black. It rained every Sunday and a week ago last sunday we arrived here in camp and worked all day to get our tents pitched and a place to sleep. We have to sleep on the ground with nothing but a rubber blanket under us
- (6) and only an army blanket over us. It is quite cool here nights but we don't suffer any from the cold as it is so warm in the day that it takes a good share of the night to cool us off. It is very nice here in the evening. Can hear the whippoorwills and the nightingales sing all night, if we are (around) to listen to them. There is a splendid moon now. It is almost as light as day here. The stillness of the evening is disturbed by the bray of a jack mule once in a while. We have 44 of them in our camp. One of the guard heard one of them about midnight and he was so scared that he left his post and ran for the officers tent. The officers gave him a calling down for leaving his post
- (7) and sent him back at once and told him not to let it happen again. Well Charlie I have quite a lot of good winter under clothing that I have got from the boys of our company. Which is as burden to me but could not see it go to waste, which I will send you if you want it bad enough to pay the charges on it. I have no money or I would send it and pay the charges myself for what you are doing for my Dear ones at home. It is all clean and all right, no disease or any thing of the kind about it. I have now 2 pairs of drawers, 3 good wrappers, 4 or 5 shirts, I have one fine shirt, 2 light black ones. And one heavy blue army woolen shirt one of our men was going to throw it away because it was dirty and he would not wash it. I have washed all of them out but probably Laura could do a better job on them for you. Now if you don't want them say so and I will fire them away as I can't
- (8) move them if we have to move as it is to much to carry. Could not get them in my pack. Any way if you don't want them and you know of any one who does for paying charges, tell Laura to let me know and I will send them at once. Now Lillie my Dear, how are you getting along? You were sick the last I heard from home. Hope this is not the case now. I think of you all every day even Ben & the cow, chickens & pigs. The little chickens must be fine ones by this time. Save the white ones I got from Bill and see if you can't have a nice flock of pure white leg horns when I get home. Which I think will be some time in the course of a year by the way things look and what I hear around here now. I think or imagine I can see you running around the yard playing with your
- (9) little sister and Ben. Ask Ben if he remembers me and tell him I would like his photograph. And write to Miss Crouch and tell her that I would

like to hear from her if your mother does not object. And, if she knew how lonesome I get some times to hear from someone I don't think she would care. Now you must be sure and write to me every time mother does. It does me lots of good to hear from you as well as from your mother. Do you ever go up to Jim's? Remember me to James Mc Laughlin & Fred Moodry when you see them, also Mr. Edwards folks and Leroy Burts folks and all the rest. Do you ever see Dave or hear from them? I suppose the garden is all up in good shape by this time. Did the tomatoes & cabhage plants amount to any thing? And did you sell all of them? Did the flower seeds in the boat come up? Are there any peaches? And did the berry bushes up on the hill that I put out last fall live?

- (10) Mrs. Kosboth, I think I could beat you a game of croquet if you will come down here. I will try you a game. I think I have just about time before supper time. Have you your new wheel or is your wheels where mine were when I joined the 48 separate company N.Y.V.I. in my head. Remember me to Frank D. when you see him. I saw him in Oswego the night we left. I suppose Mr. K. is working every day. Now Ethel, you little Dear, a word to you and I must close. Be a good girl and mind your Ma. How I wish I could see you. I imagine I see you a great many times but suppose you don't look the same you did the last time I saw you. You was a sleep and I wanted to wake you up but you were taking too much comfort to do that. If I could kiss your little fat
- (11) cheek once it would such a pleasure to me but such is the life of a Soldier. I will have to go were Uncle Sam sends me until he gets through with me and by that time you will not be the same little lump you was laying in your crib the day I left. If I was where I could get my hands on you now, I don't think you would sleep long. Well my Dear, you seem to come last on this sheet but you are not the least hy any means. I am sorry to say I have no money for you yet but I hear that the men are being paid off as fast as they can get around to them. Of course we will be on the rear end like a dog's tail but you will get every cent of it when I get it unless I keep a few shillings to buy writing material with. The 6 stamps you sent me was stolen out of my pack before I had them an hour. I reported it
- (12) to the Captain and he said when I got any more to bring them to him and he would lock them up for me. He has a trunk to put his stuff in. I would ask you to send me stamped envelopes if it was not for the cost of sending them. I mean envelope with the stamps stuck on for they get stuck some times and we have to throw them away and if the stamp is stuck on I can steam it and get it off. Well my Dear, I must close and go and see about the supper. Hoping to hear from you often and a good long letter. How I wish I could step in and surprise you to night and surprise you I would for I am getting fat and black. If we stay here 2 years I don't know but I will be a nig. Kiss the children for me and remember me to all
- (Top of page 12 upside down) and take care of your self. Go to CL if you wish. What will you do with Charlie? Well, good by, kisses for you all, yours lovingly, BLR
- (13) Dear Wife we have had our supper and this is the nicest time of the day. We have our dishes all washed and work all done up for the night. For breakfast we will only have hard tack, bacon and coffee with out sugar or

milk. We have had no milk for a long time but coffee is very good if it has sugar. The Regiment is out on dress parade and it is very quiet in the different streets. The Regiment has just received a new flag and one of the Companies has gone to bead quarters after it. There will be a great yell when it comes in. Everyone is stretching their necks to see it come. It was presented by some organization and is made of silk and trimmed with gold colored silk. Here come the colors and there is a great ( ) now all through the Regiment. The men are all like brothers every one seems to want to do all

(14) be can for his neighbor. Our tent is called the staff now as we have the cooks wagons, quarter master, musicians and have 17 in all. Lillie you remember the pictures in the home Journal don't you? Well we have a Captain of one of the companies that look just like one of them. He is short, fat, black and has a big belly and walks something like a duck goes one side at a time. Well my Dears, I guess I have written enough for this time so will close. Did Charlie get the last books I sent him? Now be good children and write to your old Soldier dad as often as you can. Kiss baby again and again for me. I hear there is an excursion from Oswego here next Friday. How I wish you could come Laura. Can't you send Lillie

(Top of this page upside down) down by some of Walters friends? If you get this in time let her come if you can find some one to bring her but don't (Side of page) trust her without you know she is coming with. Good night write soon. BLR

# June 9, 1898

Camp Alger

(2 sheets, 4 pages)

Dear wife & family

When I say family I mean Charlie with the rest of you. I sent you a letter yesterday morning telling you I had sent you \$15.00 that was my pay from the Government. I sent the money by Sergeant Dunn. If you haven't it yet, you will get it soon. He was all ready to go when the First Sergeant came to me and put another five Dollar Gold piece in my hand and told me it was a present from the Company for doing the best I could for the boys. And I could not keep the tears back for think that they thought as much of me and the good it would do my Dear ones at home. Now use it for the things that you all need so bad. Am sorry I did not send you the other 60 cents as I made 50 cents yesterday washing clothes for 2 of the men and think I can make money enough to get what I need in that way and perhaps a little more. Will send it to you as fast as I get a Dollar if I can. I spent 5 cts for strawberries 3 quarts & .10 for tobacco yesterday. Now use this money for yourselves and for something

(2) that you need to wear especially the \$5.00. Yesterday was a hard day for me. One of the men working for me was laid out and the other was not feeling well so I had nearly all the work to do beside I had some extra to do. The boys bring things to me to keep for them such as Berries, milk, cherries and butter to keep cool for them. So yesterday I dug a hole in the ground 4 feet long 2 feet wide and 3 feet deep. Made a box to fit in it

with shelves in and put their stuff in it so it will keep until they call for it. It is an awful bother for they want their stuff just when I am the busiest at meal time. And last night I told them to help themselves and some of them took their own and some of the others. And then I was blamed for it. So I will have to tend to it my self or take the blame. Captain Tift told me this morning if there was any more stuff taken out that did not belong to the one who took it to fill the hole up and let them take care of their own stuff. He also said some of them did not know when one was doing them a favor. The inspectors said yesterday morning that our kitchen was the best arranged and cleanest one in the Regiment. He comes around every morning and we have to hustle and get the dishes washed and swept up before he comes.

- (3) Some of the boys go to Washington every day but I will not go as it costs money and we need every cent now. Some of the men who got their pay night before last went to bed with out a cent last night. They were playing Poker all day yesterday and lost every cent they had. One young fellow from Company C lost all he had in about an hour and went away crying after his last cent was gone. The man who got the most of it gave him back \$2.00 and he sat down and went to playing again this morning as soon as he swallowed his breakfast. Don't know how he come out. Another man in our Company was given \$10.00 by the boys because he had a wife and 6 or 7 children at home. He also went to playing poker and lost over \$8.00. The boys say they will give him no more but will send it to his family. But they will not send any money for me because I don't know how to use it when I have it for I shall send it to my Dear ones at home before I have a chance to get rid of it. And I want you to use it for yourselves and not feel that I
- (4) need it for I don't. I get enough to eat and I have more clothes than I know what to do with. If I had thought of them before I sent all my money I guess I should have sent a box of stuff home to you consisting of wrappers & drawers & shirts. I had a small package rolled up to send by Dunn but he had so much to carry that I did not ask him to take them. Now while I think of it, the money was one \$10 bill and 2 \$5.00 Gold pieces, did you get the gold? Who do you think I received a letter from yesterday? Don't think you could guess. Well it was Mrs. Peavey. She said she hoped you would not get mad at her for it as she had been thinking of it for some time. I will write to her today if I can get time. I don't know whether I told you I received a letter from Elmer or not. He said that they sent me a box May 27 but I haven't received it yet. He sent it to Camp Black. Well my Dears, I shall have to close and get to work for it is time I had the dinner a going. Will have baked beans today. Had hash for breakfast. How I wish I could get breakfast at home some morning and see my little angel with her face & hair full of potatoes. Are you sorry that I got Ben now as he look out for the Baby so much? Well Lillie, I hope you can get what you want for childrens day now. How I wish I could see you
- (Top of page upside down) at the childrens day exercise. Now Laura use the money and don't worry about me. Ask Charlie if he wants me to send him a little book there are lots of them here. Good by and lots of kisses

(Along right side) for you all. Burton

June 9, 1898 Camp Alger

#### Dear Laura and Children

I sent a letter to you this morning but there has been nearly 12 hours since then so will give you another talk tonight as I have been busy the most of the day. I have something to show for it. I have done quite a lot of washing today and have enough money to get Lillie a sash as she said she wanted one for childrens day. Now I want you to get one for her as it is the only thing I can do for her. I have one dollar that I got for washing for the men today and there is 30 cents my due yet. How is that besides doing my work and have 3 more washings for tomorrow. I have quite a lot of wrappers & drawers, shirts & towels I will send home the first chance I get. Charlie can have them if you want to give them to him or you can keep them until I come home which I think will surely be some time before long at least I hope so as I am sick of cooking. I don't wonder you get so tired sometimes

- of cooking and washing dishes for I sometimes think I don't want to ever see any thing to eat. We got 80 lbs. of fresh beef and had to cook it for dinner. It took me about three quarters of an hour to fry steak for dinner. We had steak, boiled potatoes, bread & coffee for dinner and for supper we had tomatoes cooked, bread and cheese & coffee and for breakfast we will have boiled potatoes, boiled rice & bread & coffee. Monday I have 2 pair of pants to wash and press which I shall get 50 cents a pair and I will send it to you as soon as I get it. Enclosed you will find \$1.00 all earned today and I told you what to do with it and please do as I wish you to with this and you can do as you like with the next one. Thank you Lillie for your letter. It does lots of go for me to get them from my Dear daughter. How I would like to see you. Don't you think the babe could write a few lines to? And Ben I know could if you would put some mud on his feet and a sheet of paper where he could step on it. Try it and see. Well my Dears it is so dark I can hardly see so I will close. Laura kiss the children for me and Lillie & Ethel you kiss your mother for me and I sent lots of them to you all. I will send this without stamp because it is
- (Upside down and top of page) hard work to get them and they stick together so some of them get wasted and I know you are willing to give 2 cents to hear from me once in a while. I wrote to Mrs. P. today good night all. BLR

(Along side) Remember me to Mr. & Mrs. Kalso, Mrs. (Boungles) & Bud & wife.

June 15, 1898 Camp Alger

My Dear Wife & Children

I have just finished my work and will talk with you a few minutes although I am very tired tonight. I have been washing all day except when I was getting my meals for the men. I have been alone today. The company was

all out on provo guard except the sick ones and that was 24 men. There is but very few that have not been sick. I am one of the few. I have not had a sick minute except a cold since I left home and allowing me to be the judge I do more work than any one man. I have done the cooking a number of days and tending to my work beside the other cooks have been sick and I could not get any detail to help me as there was so many sick and they had to have the well ones to drill. So I have to go it alone but I begin to think I can stand most anything now. I am as black as a nig but there are others. Well I guess I have growled enough. I will write something else on the other side.

- (2) I sent you some money awhile ago but have heard nothing from it yet and I am anxious to hear from you as well as from the money. I sent you a \$10.00 bill and 2 \$5.00 gold pieces by Sergeant Dunn. And the next day I sent you a one Dollar bill in a letter and I have \$4.00 more in money and there is \$1.45 owing to me and I have let Eddie have a dollar. I will send you what I have as soon as I hear you got the other. And would like to send it as soon as possible for I know you need all you can get and I don't want to keep it here for fear I will loose it. And I have to work to hard for it to loose any. I have spent 30 cents, 20 for milk and 10 for tobacco but will be careful not to spend any more for luxuries as I know you need it worse than I need milk. Well my dear ones I will close for this time as I am to tired to write and I have 4 washings to do tomorrow. I sent you a box this morning by freight so you will not get it for a number of days. I did not pay the freight as I did not go to the depot myself. I have lots to say to you but will wait until next time. Maybe I will get time tomorrow afternoon and then I will write to Lillie & the other little angel. Does Lillie feel any different
- (Side and top of page upside down) than she did about my coming away? Received a letter from Jim W. yesterday. Tell Charlie I made a mistake about his sending the stamps and to please excuse me it was
- (Top of first page sideways) from Carrie also a box of papers. You told me that C. sent me some and I thought it was his box that had the stamps in as I received them both the same day but have read a letter from her since. Well good night. Kiss baby for me and Lillie also and keep one for yourself. Yours lovingly. Burton, good night.

June 15, 1898

Camp Alger

(2 sheets, 8 pages)

#### Dear Wife & Children

- I sent you a letter this morning inquiring about the money. If you had received it yet and it had not left the office before I received your & Lillies letter saying you had the dollar. And this P.M., I rec'd one from Charlie saying Dunn had delivered the other \$20.00 that will help you out a little and I will send you \$3.00 in this letter which you can get some shoes for
- (2) Lillie and pay the music lessons too. I think the Lord is on your side and mine too as he gives me good health and lots of work to earn money for my Dear ones at home. I earned 80 cents today since dinner. I did not

- get a chance to do anything before dinner after writing to you. I have some for tomorrow but not much but I think it will come in in the morning. I did not get any money today but I have their stuff here yet I get lots of work from other companies. I got some ammonia and a sponge
- (3) to take grease out of pants with. Today I sent to Washington for it by one of our boys. It cost me .25 cents. So you see I have beat you out of that more but I can do a better job and may be will get enough more work to more than pay for it. Don't know whether I told you how much I get for cleaning pants or not but will tell you again. 40 cents for pants and 20 for blouses and can clean a suit in about an hour and a half. The men are willing to pay it and are satisfied with my work but it is quite a job to
- (4) the white stripes. I put them on a board take a scrub brush and go at them like an old Irish woman scrubbing a floor. Now my Dear don't worry about my working so hard as it is a pleasure for me to do it for you & my Dear children. I only wish I could send you more and do more for you and children. If I hadn't let Ed have any I could send you a five dollar Bill and if the men get their stuff in the morning before 9 o'clock
- (Top of this page sideways and across other facing page) may be I will have it any way. I just wish Lillie you could come and see me. I wouldn't do a thing to you or your little angel sister either and your mother to, but I don't see any way that you can do it. It makes me home sick to see the other boys fathers, mothers, sisters & brothers and friends come and see them but no one comes to see me. I suppose it is because they are like us to poor to spend their money on the Rail Road.
- (5) Laura did I tell you to save the old letters? If I did not, please do so as I may come home some time and if I do I want to see them. I rec'd a letter from Leon today. They are all well. He says he would like to be with me if he did not have so much to do. Lillie, Bens letter was all right. I think he done well for the first time and think the baby has grown a lot since I came away by the size of her little foot and hand. Did you get the
- (6) writing paper I sent you? If you have, give Charlie a part of it, there is a man coming in the morning with some much nicer than that. If I see him I will send it and you must share with him as I think he is very kind to you all and you must be good to him. Tell him not to work to hard and make himself sick. Am glad you are going to Cedar Lake this summer. Hope you will have a good time. Will you take Ben with you? If you don't what will he do without the babe. We have a tame
- (7) Rat here and he is running all over me and my papers while I am writing. He is black and white but mostly white. Everyone thinks every thing of him. He runs all around my tent. Don't shut him up at all. One of the boys took him 3 streets away last night and let him go and he come right back with out stopping. He has a hole dug under the chest and he stays there the most of the time in the day but is all over at night and early in the morning. Well I will have a hard day tomorrow as we just got
- (8) word that 10 days rations would be issued tomorrow and that means lots of work for me. For you know it takes a lot of stuff to feed 84 men 10 days. Well my Dears, I will have to close. Will send Charlie another book in the morning with this. Does he have to pay any more postage on them? Well Kisses for you all. Good night. Let me hear as soon as you get this

if it is only a word so I won't think it is gone to someone else. Good night

(Up side) and God Bless and keep you

(Top of page upside down) until I come home and pray that I may return soon from your loving husband & father. BLR Be sure and put Co. D on when you address your letters.

(Top of page one sideways) Lillie, you done well this time do so some more and tell me all the news.

June 16, 1898 (no date on letter but best guess as to subject material)
(2 sheets, 4 pages)

- Thursday Morning. Good morning all. It is a poor day for drying clothes so will adjourn and talk with you a while and wash later if it clears up. And if not, I will put it over until tomorrow although I can't think of as much as I could last night but will write something. Carrie sent me a box by mail with fried cakes and cookies in it but they were pretty well broken up but they were good and every crumb eaten. Don't send anything that will spoil if you send any thing at all. Mrs. Peavey said she was going to send a box to Ed so if you want to put anything in put some fried cakes, lemons and a package of tea but don't send them because I name them. You had better use the money for your own use as I am getting used to army grub and don't know what good grub is that has no ashes or dirt in it. We get a lot of such stuff here. I have not been out of camp since we came here. Most all the men have been
- (2) to Washington but I have not. But guess I would if I could find Will McCray so I could get my (dinner) out of him. It only costs 46 cents for the round trip from here for a Soldier. Does Albert Goodier live there now? We have plenty of water now and good water too. There are 3 drilled wells in our Regiment now and none of them is less than 60 feet deep and one of them is 190. One of our men has gone to Oswego to his mothers funeral. Peters is his name. We have 41 prisoners in our Reg. The most of them are under arrest for being drunk but the money is getting scarce and there won't be so many drunk then. Some one stole my coat yesterday and it will go hard with him when it is found. The Captain is looking for it and says he will surely get it. Eddie has just got another dollar of me only night before last I let him have a dollar and now another. Suppose I spent my money like that what would you say? I have 2 bundles of clothes by my side that has come since I began to write and guess I had better stop writing and get at them. Well Lillie, I am glad you got your sash for childrens day.
- (3) Did you have a good time? Did Ethel go? I suppose she had to speak a piece, didn't she? I wrote a letter to the band some time ago but haven't heard from any of them. I suppose they think I am only a soldier and am not worth writing to. Now Lillie, you must be a good girl and tell your mother to get you a wheel and I will try to earn money enough washing to pay for it. Don't think you will have to work and earn it yourself as long as I can work and earn it for you. If she can get one and pay \$5.00 a month I will pay the five dollars as long as I can get washings to do. I

- suppose the baby is into everything now running away and pulling the flowers up and everything else mischievous. You don't know how I would like to see you all. Does the baby eat potatoes with her hands yet and put it in her hair? Well the sun is coming out and I will close and go to washing. Remember me to all
- (4) and be a good girl and help your mother all you can. I sent a bowl in the box for baby, a button for you and books for Charlie. Laura, please save the old letters I sent in the box. I wonder why Father don't write to mc. Lillie you write to him and tell him to write. Send my address. Well good by and lots of Kisses for you all. Laura you can do as you like with the clothes. Give them to Charlie or keep them just as you like. Some of them are not washed very clean, as I did not have time. It would be a good plan to wash all of them when you get time. Well good by again with lots of love to you & Children. Would write more but have to go to work. Remember me to all. BLR

June 17, 1898 (No date on letter but subject material states June 17th)

- Friday night and your letter not gone yet but it will be worth more to you when it does come. I add a little to it every day. I hear we are to get some more money soon. I hope we do for your sake. Money is of no use to me or not much. I said last night that I would not spend any more but I have spent 10 cents again today. I haven't had much work today but have had some. This is a great night down here. It is
- (2) what they call Bunker Hill day and the Southern Regiments are celebrating in great shape. We can see fireworks and hear cannons all around. It is like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July only there is fire works in every direction, bands playing and men shouting and hollering. It was on this day of the month, the 17, that the battle of Bunker Hill was fought and it is only 2 miles from our Regiment and in side the camp. The camp is 7 miles square. The old Halifax Residence is in sight of us is only about 1/2 a
- (3) mile away. Lots of the boys has pieces of bricks, wood, stone and nails out of the ruins. I have not been over there yet but think I will go sunday if I can get away from my work. Sunday is no different than any other day to the Squaw gang as the cooks are called. There is services here every Sunday morning, evening & Thursday night, but I don't get my work done in time to go much. Have been to the Thursday evening services 2 but they were nearly out
- (4) when I got there. The last time I went I could not help shedding tears to hear some of the men talk. I am so wicked I don't as there is any hope for me. It makes me shudder to hear some of the men talk. They can't say a word with out adding an oath too. Well my Dear, I am crying and it is about time for taps so I guess I had better close for tonight. Don't let Lillie know about my crying.

(Side of letter) Good night and pray for me

(Top of page upside down) that I may be a better man and do my duty to our master & country. Kiss the angel children for me and I would do the same to you if I could.

June 23, 1898 Camp Alger

(2 sheets, 8 pages)

Dear Wife & Family

I received your welcome letter this P.M. and you don't know how much good it done me to think the money arrived all right and just in time to get my Dear little girl some shoes. I sent you some more this morning. Hope you have it by the time you get this. I have been very busy today. The Regiment went on a long march this morning and I had to work until

- (2) eleven o'clock last night and was up and at it again at 2:30 this morning. I am a lone again and had 13 men to cook for. Had my dinner all ready and about 10 minutes before mess call in came Dunn with 27 men. And I had it all to do over again so I had to cook my brains for another hour over a hot fire frying bacon or what the men call sow belly and about 90 degree of hot sun on my back. It is very warm here in the day time and cold nights. Well my Dear, I fooled away some money
- (3) today. I bought a little present for you and Lillie and a man is going to bring one for Ethel in the morning. There are lots of things a man can spend his money for but when I see them I think which will do you the most good and say to myself the money will and go on about my work. I saw a badge today I would like to get Charlie but the price was to high. They will be cheaper in a few days and then may be I will get one for him. I want to send him something.
- (4) I think I will go to Washington Sunday if I can get away as I won't have any washing to do that day. If I can find Will, it won't cost me much as I can get my dinner there. I wish I had some of your fried cakes here. I wouldn't do a thing to about a dozen of them. I also could eat some of those berries if I were there. Strawberries are out of season here. We can get black & red raspberries also long black berries at 5 cts a qt.

(Top of first page upside down) Has the box come yet? No.

- (5) Well we had a nice shower here tonight and about 200 men were out in it without a rag on them. I was one and I feel good now. Put on some clean clothes and shaved and am clean and healthy tonight. And the only thing lacking to make me happy is to be where I could see my Dear Wife & Children. I sent Lillie a package this morning. Hope she received it all right. I have another little present for her.
- (6) I am spending lots of money lately. Guess I will have to stop it so as to send more for my dear ones at home to enjoy. But have patience, it is getting near pay day again and then you will have some more to help you out a little. Can you keep track of what I send you? If you can, I wish you would so I can see if I make as much as I would at the factory. Oh I wish you could come and call on me but the poor can't ride in shyness as the rich do. When do you go to the lake?
- (7) Well Lillie, how are you for money? Have you got any? If you haven't let me know and I will send you some. If Mama hasn't any for you to go to festivals with, I will send you some for your self. But you must remember that you are a poor mans daughter and don't spend to much but I will do the best I can for you so you can have some of the pleasures of this life.

- But you must be a good girl and obey your heavenly Father so you can enjoy as much of the next life as the rich
- (8) do. Well Lillie, I guess I have lectured you enough so I will stop it and I guess I will stop writing for this time as it is bed time. Write to me often and I will try and answer them. Take good care of Ethel & Ben. Kiss baby for me and your mother too. Well good night all. Let me hear from you as soon as you get this, as I shall be anxious to know if you get the money. Lots of Kisses to you all. Remember me to all. I will

(Up side) write to Charlie certain next week.

(Upside down) Good night and good luck to you. Burton L. Rider

#### June 25, 1898

Camp Alger

(2 sheets, 8 pages)

Dear Wife & Family

I am nearly tired out but I feel it my duty and a pleasure to write to you tonight and send you a little of the fruits of my labor which is also a pleasure. Enclosed find \$4.00 for you to use as you think best. I wrote you that our Regiment was out on a long march. Well they came back today about 10 o'clock all dirt and tired out and I had to

- (2) get dinner for them all alone but I knew they were coming so I was ready for them. There was 112 for dinner today. We had baked pork & beans, potatoes, coffee & bread. This morning we had ham & eggs, coffee, bacon & bread. Yesterday we had boiled cabbage, pork & potatoes, coffee & bread. I had 112 loves of bread issued today about 11 o'clock tonight I have only 8 loaves left, so I may imagine that the men eat a little. The other 2 cooks has not done a thing since they come back only
- (3) lay in the shade and play poker and I done their work. So I haven't earned a cent of extra money today for you. I come near flunking today. Just after dinner, the heat was terrible and I was over the fire getting the beef ready to roast. Have cooked 119 lbs. of beef this afternoon. Will cut it up cold for breakfast and fry some potatoes. This morning I was up and had breakfast all ready at reveille and no one to help me. But the men that were out on the
- (4) march think I had a snap but I tell you I was on the snap the most of the time. But it was my duty and I will do that as long as I can stand up. I asked for a pass to Washington today. Think I will go about Tuesday if I can earn money enough to take me there before that time and I think I can but I feel that I am robing you and my little ones of that amount. I done a washing for Mrs.
- (Up side and upside down on top and across to next page) Clancy yesterday had 4 pillowcases, 12 handkerchiefs, 1 night shirt, 2 sheets, 5 towels and 2 pairs of pants split in the crotch, but they were not mens pants. It is the dry goods merchants wife from Oswego. She has a son in the company. I do Captain Tifts, Lieutenant Potbery & McDonalds and Sergeant Vickerys washing and get good pay for it too.
- (5) Sunday night and your letter here yet but will not fail to send it in the morning. I have been made a fool of again today. One of the cooks went to Washington and the other has played poker the most of the day and I

June 23, 1898 Camp Alger

(2 sheets, 8 pages)

Dear Wife & Family

I received your welcome letter this P.M. and you don't know how much good it done me to think the money arrived all right and just in time to get my Dear little girl some shoes. I sent you some more this morning. Hope you have it by the time you get this. I have been very busy today. The Regiment went on a long march this morning and I had to work until

- (2) eleven o'clock last night and was up and at it again at 2:30 this morning. I am a lone again and had 13 men to cook for. Had my dinner all ready and about 10 minutes before mess call in came Dunn with 27 men. And I had it all to do over again so I had to cook my brains for another hour over a hot fire frying bacon or what the men call sow belly and about 90 degree of hot sun on my back. It is very warm here in the day time and cold nights. Well my Dear, I fooled away some money
- (3) today. I bought a little present for you and Lillie and a man is going to bring one for Ethel in the morning. There are lots of things a man can spend his money for but when I see them I think which will do you the most good and say to myself the money will and go on about my work. I saw a badge today I would like to get Charlie but the price was to high. They will be cheaper in a few days and then may be I will get one for him. I want to send him something.
- (4) I think I will go to Washington Sunday if I can get away as I won't have any washing to do that day. If I can find Will, it won't cost me much as I can get my dinner there. I wish I had some of your fried cakes here. I wouldn't do a thing to about a dozen of them. I also could eat some of those berries if I were there. Strawberries are out of season here. We can get black & red raspberries also long black berries at 5 cts a qt.

(Top of first page upside down) Has the box come yet? No.

- (5) Well we had a nice shower here tonight and about 200 men were out in it without a rag on them. I was one and I feel good now. Put on some clean clothes and shaved and am clean and healthy tonight. And the only thing lacking to make me happy is to be where I could see my Dear Wife & Children. I sent Lillie a package this morning. Hope she received it all right. I have another little present for her.
- (6) I am spending lots of money lately. Guess I will have to stop it so as to send more for my dear ones at home to enjoy. But have patience, it is getting near pay day again and then you will have some more to help you out a little. Can you keep track of what I send you? If you can, I wish you would so I can see if I make as much as I would at the factory. Oh I wish you could come and call on me but the poor can't ride in shyness as the rich do. When do you go to the lake?
- (7) Well Lillie, how are you for money? Have you got any? If you haven't let me know and I will send you some. If Mama hasn't any for you to go to festivals with, I will send you some for your self. But you must remember that you are a poor mans daughter and don't spend to much but I will do the best I can for you so you can have some of the pleasures of this life.

- done the work so I haven't had much time to myself. I think I will go to Washington Tuesday if it don't rain. Will find Will if I can.
- (6) Have had the promise of another Dollar in the morning. Don't know as I will get it but hope I will. Well I can't write much to night I am to homesick. I wish I could step in and see you all for a few minutes at least to night but it is out of the question. I am a long way from you. It has been terrible hot here today. I suppose the babe suffers from the heat these hot days. Well I can't think of any thing to write so I will close good night.
- (7) Answer this as soon as you get it if it is only a postal card and let me know if you get the money. I begin to think you don't get all of my letters that has money in them. I guess I will have to wait until I get enough so it will pay to get a money order. Lillie, I guess you had better give up the wheel until I come home and by the way things look in the paper the Spaniards will be cleared out pretty soon
- (8) and I think we will come home soon after that. Good by my Dears and be sure and write. I haven't had a letter from any one since last Tuesday. Kiss babe for me. Remember me to all. B.L.R. Wednesday morning. Dear Family I went to Washington yesterday. Will write about it when I have more time. B.L.R. Didn't find Will.

### (July 2, 1898) (No date on letter but best guess due to subject material)

- Saturday night and your letter not gone yet but will surely send it in the morning. I am well yet and as busy as ever. I have worked this afternoon but this morning we had to turn out for inspection and didn't get time to do much. Eddie come to me for more money tonight. He wanted \$2.00 tonight. That makes \$4.00 dollars he owes me now and I have \$4.00 in my pocket, which I will send you
- (2) in this letter making \$9.00 I have made and got. And there is \$2.30 owing to me making \$11.30 if I get it, since I sent you the \$20.00 and I expect to get \$12.42 from the State now soon. My Dear it is a pleasure to me to send my money home to you and my children. I think we will pay our debts if I can get the work right along as I am now. I have to turn lots of work away as I can't wash for the whole Regiment and cook to but will do
- (3) all I can. 2 of the companys received recruits today about 25 men each and the report is that we will have ours next week. Every company is to be recruited to 106 men. That means more work for the cooks. Did Lillie get the paper I sent her? I have some more envelopes, which I will send with Charlies book for her and she must give Charlie some of them. Do I put stamps enough on the books I send to him? If not, let me know as I can get all the stamps I want now. Don't
- (4) send me any more until I ask for them as it is hard to keep them here for they get stuck together and there is a place to buy them here now and I have lots of money now. Well, I will close and go to bed as I am sleepy and tired. More Kisses to the children & yourself. Good night and write as often as you can. I feel better than I did last night. Good night and God bless you. B.L.R.

July 6, 1898 (No date on letter, best guess as to subject material)
Wednesday Morning

#### Dear family

- I did not get a chance to send this last night, so will put in a few more words this morning. You need not bother to send any more stamps as arrangement have been made so the postage can be paid at the other end of the route. So you can get my letters just the same but you will have to pay the postage there. We only had hard tack and bacon & coffee for breakfast this morning. The dishes are not washed this morning yet. Am waiting for dish water to heat. There was lots of kicking
- (2) this morning but I could not help it if we don't get the stuff to cook we can't cook it. There was a great excitement here in camp last night over the great battle just won by the American fleet. Shouting and hurrahs were heard from all over the camp nearly all night. I was up at 3 o'clock this morning because I could not sleep. There was so much noise. The barrel with the package of hard tack is for you. Left here yesterday. Did not cost anything to send it so if you don't get them, there will be no loss but get them if you can. I think C. Perry will get them for you. Well the water is hot and I want to get this in the morning mail good by.
- (Top of this page upside down) And if the babys face is covered with potatoes, eat a little of it for me as I am lungry and there is nothing
- (Sideways top of first page) here to eat that would tempt a mans appetite even if he is hungry. Good by and lots of kisses for you all from your loving (husband). Burton L. Rider.

July 7, 1898 Camp Alger

#### For Charlie

#### Dear friend Charlie

- I received your letter yesterday and am always glad to hear from you. Sampson is all right and so is Hobson and take it all around Shafter isn't very slow. The Washington paper says Sampson destroyed 2 more boats yesterday and tonight they say
- (2) Santiago will be surrendered with bombarding. Am sorry the work is so slack. Hope it will be better. Charlie you are welcome to the studs and I don't want you to pay for them. You have paid for them a great many times already. I will get the pencil if I can but am afraid I can't get any. Have sent to Washington 3 or 4 times but haven't got any yet. I was lucky in getting the studs for you. They were the last the man had and there was 3 or 4 after
- (3) them. Tell the boys I am all right and that I answer all letters sent to me and will answer any one who will write to me except <u>Dake</u> the <u>bluffer</u>, <u>flunker</u> and the <u>candy man</u>. Charlie, I am glad you take such an interest in my interest and afraid you are working to hard and then you want to pay for a cheap set of buttons. No Charlie, I don't want you to do it. I owe you more than you do me. I remember Gifford perhaps Laura had better
- (4) let the old cow go. It would make less work for you all. How does the band prosper? It must be booming if they go on excursions. Tell them

we are trying get a band in our Regiment and perhaps they could get a job down here. Well I will close and go to bed as I have to get up uncommonly early to get breakfast for 6 men who are going out on porvo guard.

(Top of page sideways) So good night and write again. I have cleaned 5 pairs of pants and washed some under clothes for the Captain today making \$2.20 besides doing my regular work. Well, good night. Write again when you can. Remember me to all the boys. B.L.R.

# July 7, 1898 Camp Alger

#### (For Laura, Marked as page 2)

I will be a great deal easier for me. I am glad you have so much company it keeps you from being lonesome. Many thanks for the Rose. Does Fish work on the Mott farm again? You say you hate to lose Charles board. Is he going to leave you? I am sorry to hear Mrs. K. has hurt herself. The 4<sup>th</sup> was a great day here. Canons, fire crackers & sham battles all day. And in the evening the air was full of rockets, roman candles and fire balloons and everything you can think of and music. It was one continual stream for about 4 hours. I wish you could have seen it and heard the music. It was great. I thought of you a great many times

- (2) and went away out of sight and cried like a child. I couldn't enjoy the fun and you so far from me and nothing to enjoy, but it was one of the greatest day in Santiago as you have seen by the paper that Sampson destroyed the great Spanish fleet. There was a great time when the news reached here and we get it direct from the President at Regimental head quarters as soon as it reaches him. Laura, would it be spending money foolishly if you
- (3) had your pictures taken and send to me? I will do a little extra work if you think not and pay for them but if you had rather have the money don't do it. Work Ben in too if you can. Now Laura do as you think best about going to C.L. but I think it would do you all good. Perhaps I will be home by the time you get ready to come home and may be I won't. I can't tell but it look to me as if the war would not last much longer but
- (4) can't tell. I have another box of clothes packed and nailed up to send to you. How much did it cost to send it and is it worth the freight? Let me know as soon as you can as I want you to get it before you go to the Lake. There are some things in it for you all, so give them as directed in box. The books are for Charlie, the towels are some the men thought were not worth washing and I did so. I washed them and sent them home. The cross guns are for Lillie. They are what we have to wear. The spoon is for Ethel if it is in there don't know
- (Top of page 3 upside down) whether it is or not. If not some one stole it while I was packing the box.
- (Across to next page upside down) It had the Maine engraved on the inside side of the bowl and camp Alger also.

Dear Family & Friends at home

Well Lillie, I received your welcome letter yesterday and was very glad to get it as it is as near as I can get to you. It found me well and working but my face is quite sore yet. I wish we had a river here that we could get into. Ethel will be so large I will not know her when I get home. You must be careful of her when

- (2) you go in the river with her. I just sent the other piece of music in another box. I sent it yesterday. There is something in it for all of you. Tell Charlie to open it if you go to C.L. before it gets there. I did not pay the freight. How much did the other one cost? The spoon I spoke about I found and sent by mail today, also another package of paper, also one to Charlie and one to Minnie W. I have lots of more clothes and towels and will send them home if the freight is not more than the stuff is worth. The letter you spoke
- (3) of is in Jersey City yet. There is some money in it and I told them not to mail it until they got to Oswego. Laura, when you get letters with money in them tell me and how much so I will know if you get what I send you. I wrote you a letter, a number of letters with a dollar in and you don't say a word about them. So please let me know when you get a letter with money in. I have \$6.00 in my pocket for you now but don't know what to do about sending it. Will not send it until I hear from you. I sent a money order for \$23.00 Friday.
- (4) Have you got the pictures yet and the money order? I have answered the letter about the cow. Sell her if you want to but you must buy all the milk that Ethel wants. If you do, don't deny her of her milk when she likes it so well. Well Lillie, I can't tell you much about Washington. One will have to see it to tell anything about the splendor of the place. The book will explain better than I can tell you.
- (Top of page upside down) I did not find Will. The people that lived next to bim said he had moved to Niagara Falls. Well I will have to close and go to bed as I have a hard day for tomorrow. It is ration day again and that means lots of work. Rec'd a
- (Continued top of opposite page) letter from Father & Stickney today. Maud is very sick. Well Dear Laura Kiss the children good night for me. How I wish I could do it my self. Now write when ever I send money or postal orders. Good night. Lots of love to you all,

(Down side) remember me to all. B.L.Rider.

- (5) Don't pay any attention to what you hear as there is no truth in it as any one knows of. We hear everything here. One day we are going to Cuba, the next day to Costa Rica and the next to Long Island to do garrison duty. So Dr. Bulger don't know any thing about it any more than you do and no one will know until we get orders to move and then we will have to go where we are sent. So don't worry until you have some thing to worry
- (6) about. I don't pay attention to what I hear. It is time to worry when we have to. You have a friend who is better than I and if it is his will that I

shall go to the front he will take care of you in some way. And probably better than I can. Think of my coming back as black as a niger from the sunny south and don't look at the dark side for there is always sunshine after a shower. I was thinking I had written to Jim and I think I did but will write again. I haven't written to Grandmother yet. Receive a letter from Father today.

- (7) Maud has another kid. They are as well as can be expected. Now Lillie, I will answer your letter. I will send you a piece of music which you can learn to sing to me when I get home. Yes my Dear, nothing does me more good than to get a letter from my dear ones at home. No Lillie, keep them (the main paper and envelopes) if you want to or use them for any thing you want them for. You might send me one so I can keep it of you have written on it but keep the rest. I can get more here. You had quite a time with the cow. I should think you had better sell her if she is to much
- (8) bother. You must look pretty slick there now. Wish I could step in and see you all and don't be surprised if I do but may not be in some time yet. May be it is best for you to not get a bike now as you need what little money I can send you for something else more than a wheel. I think Ben is a good dog. What will you take for him? I will give \$2.00 and here is your money. Use it or let Mama have it to use for you and keep Ben until
- (Top of page sideways across both pages) I call for him. I have only made 40 cents today. I had all the cooking to do alone. Well my Dear, I must close as it is late and every one in camp is asleep but me. I know I won't get time to write tomorrow so have done it tonight. Tell Charlie to have patience. I will write when the men come back. Good night, kiss baby for me and keep lots for yourself. Burton R.

# July 12, 1898 Camp Alger, Tuesday evening

#### Dear Wife and little ones

Received your letter today and was glad to hear from you and that you were all well. I am well and working. I sent you a letter Friday morning with an money order in it for \$23.00. I thought you would get it Saturday. Hope you have it before this time if not let me

- (2) know at once as I had to work to hard for it to loose. I have a little more for you as soon as I know that you have that. Johnny Clancy says his people are home and sent the letter to you that day probably you have it before this. Have you ever got my watch from Burden & Marsdens? If you haven't please inquire about it. I got a letter from Aunt (Het) Miller and one from Mother today and a card from Father yesterday and a letter from F. Stickney and Father Saturday.
- (3) Well it is bed time and I will have to close. Excuse this short letter and let me hear from you about the money and watch and the letter from Clancys. I sent some pictures to Lillie this morning. The camp is perfect. I am glad you sold the cow as it saves you lots of work but give the baby all she wants as long as I can work and earn it. Well I will close and will write again when I have more time. Take good care of the

(4) little Angels and Kiss them for me. Excuse poor writing as it is done in a hurry. Remember me to all. (Kren) is Mr. & Mrs. K. Good night lovingly yours BLR. Lillie have you & Charley your paper yet? BLR

#### July 15, 1898

Friday, Camp Alger (4 sheets, 8 pages)

New letterhead. Labeled: Company D, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, 1<sup>st</sup> Brig. 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, 2<sup>nd</sup> Army Corps, Camp Russell A. Alger, Va.

#### Dear Family and all

I have been very slow in answering your kind letters but don't you stop writing because I do as I am very busy the most of the time. I am well and hope this finds you all the same. I am out of the commissary & cooking business now and am drilling with the Company and washing when I get any to do. I had quite a lot of money for you but have lent it to the boys. If you need it before pay day again let me know and I will get some for you. I don't get as much work to do as I did so don't make as

- (2) much money but will make all I can and send you. I have spent some for luxuries. This month have bought quite a lot of milk but feel guilty every time I eat it as I think it is taking that much away from my Dear ones that need it worse than I do. But have resolved to be more careful and not spend any more when you need it so bad. I sent you a memorial of the company this week and today another box of dry goods and some glasses and C that I picked up and cleaned. The small ones are for the small children also the white cup is for Ethel, the 2 blue shirts are the ones I brought from home. I have some that I got for washing and I don't
- (3) want so much stuff to look after and so I send them home. If I ever come back I can wear them out. It won't cost any thing to keep them. The little books Lillie can give away to who ever she wants to. They were sent here with tobacco and I thought she would like them. Well I have to go and drill. Will finish this tonight. Well my Dear, here I am again. Tell Mrs. Owen we have a plenty to eat and a variety to. We had canned salmon, potatoes new, bread & coffee for dinner. Roast beef, potatoes and flour gravy & Bread for supper. Tomatoes, potatoes, coffee & bread
- (4) for breakfast this morning & tomorrow morning we get boiled rice, potatoes, bread & coffee. And we have had rice pudding, warm biscuits, a boiled dinner of pork cabbage, potatoes and most any thing that can be got at home except pie, cake & c. We haven't had pea soup but twice since we come here. We get butter once in a while when we have the money to buy it with also eggs and black berries. We have had 3 crates of them. Lots of beans both baked and boiled. We have some green onions and cabbage coming tomorrow. If Owens says we get nothing but pea soup he tells something that isn't so. The living is all right. There are some times it is
- (5) it is scorched or isn't quite cooked but very often. Well my Dears, by the reports here tonight we will not be here much longer but will be at home and there is where the most of us want to be if we are not wanted to defend our <u>Flag</u> and <u>Country</u>. This life is not a pleasant one I assure you.

The ground is a hard bed when you have nothing but a thin rubber blanket to lie on. Some of the men have bunks. I have one made out of 3 green poles and some boards

- (6) nailed on them to keep me off the ground but it is not very soft and the tents are crowded so it is very unpleasant. I haven't slept with my clothes off since I left home. So if I do ever come home and get in bed or under it on the floor don't wonder at it. We are used to it and sleep just as well as if we were on a bed. I bought myself a wash tub and board of my own tonight. I have lost lots of work because I didn't have a tub to wash with. Have you ever sent my revolver? I haven't received it yet if you have. I sent a pin with this for Charlie. Have you received the spoon for Ethel and paper I sent to Lillie and Charlie,
- (7) also the pictures, one of the camp (it is perfect) and the one of the Maine and the General? Please tell me when you get these things as I am anxious for you to get them and I will want to look at them some time. May be the pictures I didn't put any stamp on because I couldn't get them. I had money but there was no stamps to be got in camp. Lillie I am glad that you were pleased with the belt. Mama must look quite gay with a fancy belt on. I expect to be home
- (8) to see you with them on before long by the sound of the papers tonight unless something new turns up. I feel quite encouraged now about getting home soon unless some thing new turns up that is not known of now. Captain Tift went to Oswego today on a 10 day furlough. I could get one but it would cost so much that the money it would cost would do you more good than it would for me to come home and have to come back again. Well I must close for this time hoping this will find you all well. Tell me all about Ethel and take good care of her and Kiss her lots of times for me and Lillie too. Am in hopes I can do it my self before long (Top of page upside down) Remember me to all and write as often as you can. Am sorry I can't send you some money. Have let Eddie (\$4.00). Good by. Burton

July 17, 1898

Camp Alger (3 sheets, 12 pages)

Dear Laura, Lillie & Ethel

I received your long letter yesterday and at a time when I had nothing to do and was thinking about you away off in the woods by myself. But the man that get the mail knew where I was and brought it to me. I am well and have lots more time to myself than I did when I was cooking and am not roasted to death

(2) all the time and can eat more than I could when I had to cook it. My face is all well again but has been very sore and painful. You would not like to have me where you could see me any better than I would like to be where you could see me. Laura you must not work to hard. You keep preaching to me about working hard. You must look out for yourself. I am very glad you use the money I send you for something you need and it is a pleasure for me to send it and be able to earn it for you.

- (3) Am glad you can get something for baby. I think she must look slick in a white dress running around. Get her a bonnet and do you think one of those belts would be nice for her? If you do, tell me and I will get one for her. If you have nothing that is crowding you and don't need the money, you might offer to pay the band some. If you haven't it all, give them what you can spare but don't rob your self. I will have some more for you in about 2 weeks probably about \$25.00 so you can figure on that.
- (4) Frank Dake owes me 50 cents and if you could get the \$5.00 from Fisher and Doolittle owes me \$2.00-3.00. The note is there. If you could get some potatoes or something of him it would be as good as the money to you as long as you have to buy them. If Fisher works for (Quinn) tell him and I guess he will fix it so you can get it. Did you go to the picnic? I hope you did on Lillies account for I know she would enjoy going so much. I can get a belt for Carrie if you think she would like it but don't give her yours. I am so glad that baby remembers me. The picture must be good if she knows who it is. Am glad every one likes our little angel so well.
- (Top of first page sideways) Kiss baby for me and remember me to all. BLR. Wish I had some money to send you. There is about \$11.00 owing to me.
- (5) (Marked 2) Hope she will always be good so every one will always like her but look out that she don't get spoiled for when I come home I want to find a nice little girl which I think I will. I would like to see my picture but guess it won't pay to send it here. Do what you like with the ones taken in W. but think Father would like one if you have it to spare. I think you are doing well to pay so much and be able to get something for yourselves. I would like to come home and find all debts paid and will work and earn money for you to pay them with as long as I can get the work to do. I am glad you didn't except any thing of Page
- (6) so when I come home they won't have that to throw at me and if I can get steady work some where else. I don't know as I will ask them for work but don't tell any one about this for I may be obligated to ask them for work. I heard about Nats boy by some one, don't know who. Yes, we have new potatoes and they are very nice too. It is very dry and hot here. Lots of the men sleep out in the woods. I have built me a bed. One of the men went in with me and we built a double decker. Here is a model of it. () It is built
- (7) of round poles and is quite comfortable, better than the ground. Well I guess I will answer Lillies letter now. Well Lillie, I think that Ethel must be quite a young lady to talk so much you must teach her to write so she can write to me. I don't see many horses here but lots of mules, very seldom a bicycle but lots of men and very few women and children. There was a couple of women visiting a man in our tent from Washington today. She brought a large basket full of good stuff
- (8) and shared it with every man in the tent so I got my share of Fig cake, jell cake, fried cakes, sandwiches, cheese, cookies and olives, pickles and canned fruit. Tell Mrs. Owens we had baked pork & beans, coffee & bread for dinner. Lillie you say you wish you could come down here. I wish you could too. I wouldn't do a thing but hug and kiss you. Our Captain is in Oswego and would have you come with him if there was any

- way to get you home again. I may possibly come home on a furlough if we stay here much longer. Which would you rather have me come home for a few days or the money it would
- (9) (Marked 3) cost for me to come? Ask Mama and see what she says. Are there going to be many pansies? Wish I were there to see them. You must look gay with your new belt and Mama, oh my, she must look neat enough to kiss. If I were there, I think I would try it any way. I am glad to send you something you will both enjoy but if I bought every thing that came into camp I could not send you any money at all for there is something all the time. But I can't get any more of those pencils or buttons. I have tried hard as I would like to accommodate those who wants them. You can tell them so they will not
- (10) (Marked 4) I don't try to get them. I have asked nearly every peddler that comes here to try and get some for me but can't get any yet. I have a silver ring with my name, Company and Regiment stamped on it. Paid 25 cents for it. I can't tell you Lillie whether I will come home before you get back or not, probably not. Sometimes I think I will be home soon and then the papers talk war again so can't tell any thing about it. I would like to come home I assure you. You mustn't mind the boys playing you about me, it is none
- (11) (Marked 5) none of their business. Well I guess I will close for this time and write to Uncle Elmer. I received a letter from Carrie a few days ago. Hope this will find you all well. It is very warm here today. I am out in the woods in the shade but there is no air stirring. Shall look for a few lines from you Tuesday. Hope you will have a good time at Cedar Lake. Wish I were there to go with you but you must write to me often and tell me all about your visit and the folks there. It looks a little like rain.
- (12) Lillie there are men all around me drinking beer. Some are so drunk they can hardly sit up. Others are laid out entirely. How would you like to hear I was so full of beer I couldn't sit up? But don't you worry I see enough so I don't want it. Our Company had 4 Barrels yesterday and it is all gone. And I did not take a drink neither did Eddie Peavey. Eddie is as good boy but he spends lots of his money for cake, cookies, pies, water melon & the like. It is all right if he can afford it but I would rather send the money to you so you can have it than to eat it myself. Well good by and write when you can.

(Up side) Tell Charlie to write after you are gone. BLR

July 19, 1898 Camp Alger

Dear Wife & Family

I looked for a letter from you today but did not get it. Hope this finds you all well as this leaves me so. I succeeded in getting some more buttons today have forgot who you said wanted them. I sent a set to Mrs. Wilson. Don't let her pay for them and you can do as you like about the others. They are .25.

(2) If they are for our friends don't charge for them but if Mrs. Mead or some one like her gets them let them pay for them. It is very warm here today

- and has been for a number of days but is raining quite hard now and will be cooler for a while after it is over. One of our men out of our company had a sunstroke this A.M. and is unconscious yet. An ambulance took him to the Hospital a short time ago. He was a recruit from Syracuse. I sent you a Testament this morning
- (3) and Mama a book and have another for her which I will send as soon as I can get a stamp and will send her more of them if she wants them, as they are very cheap and good reading. So if Mama wants any more tell me and I will get them for her. We had a good dinner today, (hamburger) steaks smothered in onions, new boiled potatoes, coffee and bread and mustard. How is that for Owens pea soup? Don't let any one stuff you up like that as we have good living and well
- (4) cooked of course. We have to cook over an open fire and some dirt is sure to blow on the grub but it is as clean as can be had. It takes a boiler full of coffee, a big one to. Bigger than Mamas by one half for a meal about 1 1/2 bushels of potatoes and 45 lbs. of beef and 30 loaves of bread for a meal. The bread is very good and fresh. Is baked in the night and we get it about 8 o'clock the next morning. It is still warm some times. It is drawn from Washington here in large covered wagons with 4 & 6 horses on them and from 4,000 to 6,000 lbs. of bread at a load and our Regiment takes 2 loads a day.
- (Top of first page sideways) Well Lillie, I will close for this time as it is hard to write any thing to interest you as you don't know any one or any thing about us down here. There can 2 men go home on a 7 day furlough every week. Wish you could come down with them and stay a week with me and see what camp life is. Well write
- (Top of pages 2 and 3 upside down) as often as you can. I suppose you are ready to go to C.L. by this time. Hope you will have a good time. Wish I could be there to go with you. Kiss Mama and baby for me and remember me to all. Good by. BLR

July 20, 1898 Camp Alger

#### Dear Wife & Children

I haven't any news to write as I sent a letter to you this morning and received yours after I had sent it away. Don't send the Revolver now as I guess I shall not need it. I am not in the Band and I guess I can't get in either but have tired my best to get in. They don't want a valve tenor. They want someone that can play a slide. There was a drummer left here last night for Oswego on a 10 day furlough. His name is Charles Hunt. He is going to Menitto and will call on you. He is a good fellow treat him well give him plenty of good things

(2) to eat and any message you have for me he will bring. Mr. Jones was very kind. I will write to him when I have more time. I am on guard today. Went on last night at 8 o'clock and will get relieved at 8 tonight. I think you are getting along fine paying debts. I guess you do better when I am away from home or else you are a better manager than I am. I am disappointed about you not having your pictures. I had look forward for

them to arrive but may be it is just as well to pay debts first or a little better. Well I have no more time now so will close with Love to all and lots of kisses to you all. B.L.R. Send Lillie down here with Charles Hunt I can't get a stamp to put on this so I will have to have the Chaplain put his stamp on and you will have to pay the postage.

July 22, 1898 (No date on letter, best guess as to subject material)
Camp Alger

- Dear Lillie this paper is rather dirty but is all I have out here in the woods with me so guess I will use it. I am glad mama likes the books but she did not say whether she did or not. I can get more but have forgotten the names of the ones I sent her. If you will tell me the names I will see if I can get some thing different for her and send to her. Is there enough postage on them? Am glad to hear you have another new dress. Is Mr. Whitford home now?
- (2) I should think Mertie was making quite a visit. Probably the man you saw was one of our men as there are 2 or 3 of them away the most of the times. 2 more went home yesterday. Lillie, I am sorry you can't come down here but don't think it would be best myself. But would like to have you see how we have to live here and what we have to do. The drills are very nice for any one to look at especially the Dress Parade at 6 o'clock in the eve. There is some one going every week so there would have been lots of chances for you to come home but may be you had better give it up and not come as it is so warm here. It might make you sick.
- (3) I wish I could get some of your pop corn. You must have all your baby teeth nearly all out now. You must be getting to be quite a house keeper. Your mother is away so often. This makes twice since I left home she has left you alone to keep house. Dinner is ready. I will have to go and eat it or go with out. Well, I have had my dinner. We had baked pork & beans, coffee & bread and have had another shower and looks as if we would get another soon. Lillie you are a good girl to get your sunday school lessons. I feel proud to think I have such a good girl. Hope you will always be good and teach your little sister to be good to. It is sprinkling and wet my paper so I can't write very good on wet paper and there is not much to write to interest you only the men are quarreling about
- (4) room in the tent. I have a little bed of my own outside so I don't bother any one or they don't bother me. I have my shelter tent over it to keep off the dew at night and sun & rain at other times. It is made out of poles out of the woods and is made something like a crib. Only it is big enough for a man to get into and turn over. Lillie I have a piece of brick and 2 or 3 pieces of stone out of the old (Gener) Fairfax house. Will send them to you sometime before long. Well I will close hoping to hear from you soon. Kiss baby for me and take good care of her. Write as often as you can and tell me all the news. When you go home let me know so I will know where to send to you. Good by. Remember me to all, lovingly yours. B.L.Rider.

(Additional sheet enclosed with drawing) Lillie here is a picture of my bed and shelter tent over it as near as I can get it on paper. The bed is made

- of small hickory tree or poles and fastened together with strips of bark and a few nails. Would use more nails but could not get them. The bottom or place where I lay is made of bark woven together like a market basket. I have a straw tick now filled with straw. I bought the straw. Gave 25 cents for a hundle and a small one at that. The tick I made
- (2) out of some old burlap bags that the potatoes came in. I ripped them apart and washed them and then sewed them together and call it a straw tick. It isn't as nice looking as your Aunt Carrie is in her front room bed but it answers the same purpose. And is quite comfortable side of laying on the ground with nothing under us as the most of the men do as they haven't got enough to build a bunk. There is some one on mine the most of the time through the day as it is out of the large tents and is quiet
- (Up side) and one can rest and no one to trouble him.
- (Top of page upside down) Well Lillie, it is raining again and the wind blows some so my candle is nearly out some of the time and I will have to close for tonight. I will have to go out on Provo guard tomorrow. Will be gone 24 hours but will tell you all about the place where I go. Some of the men find some nice crystals. Out where I go may be I can get some. Good night.

July 27, 1898 Camp Alger

## Dear Wife & Family

- I have been looking for a letter from you for a number of days expecting to hear you had gone to C.L. but haven't rec'd one yet. So here goes. I am well and hope this finds you all the same. The man I wrote you about came back yesterday. He says he got started for Menitto on his wheel and he had to go back and didn't start again. I expected to hear from home and by one who had been there and look forward to his return and was greatly disappointed when he told me he did not go up there and presume you were just as much so. I am out on provo
- (2) guard duty about 2 miles from our camp. Am guarding a lot of provision shacks filled with pies, cakes, cookies and all sorts of stuff but they do me no good as I haven't a cent. I got trusted for a quart of milk this morning. I ought not have to have done it but I wanted it so bad I couldn't help it. Some of the men owe the milk man as high as \$4.00 or \$5.00. Ed told me this morning that he owed half of his next months pay. Ray Althouse says he owes \$7.00 of his and I owe .5 cents of mine unless I can work and earn it before that time. I sent a letter to Mr. Jones this morning also one to Father and a piece of music to Lillie. Has Lillie got the buttons yet and do you like the books I sent you? If not
- (3) I won't send any more. It is very hot here today. I expect our Regiment will move down nearer to Dunn Loring soon but my address will be the same as before. 2 companies from our Battalion left yesterday morning. One of them went to Falls Church and the other to the Aqueduct Bridge across the Potomac going into Washington and the other two companies in the Battalion will do provo guard duty until their return which will be in about 20 days. I guess by the sound of the papers we will not be here

- much longer as Spain wants to sign for peace. I hope she will do something before long for I am sick of this kind of life. I can come home and eat most anything
- (4) and say nothing. We have enough to eat but it is not cooked at home. Bread is all right for the kind it is but is not home made. Baked bread never was for me. I want to see you very bad today. Had my mind partly made up to go home but my hopes are shattered now as we can only get a pass for 10 days at the most and would cost me about \$23.00. The \$11.62 l wrote you about is for furlough only and I guess nothing but officers get them. A poor private has to spend all the money he gets for any thing like that. When an officer gets the same thing for half the money. Well I will close this is a poor letter. Will

(Up side) do better next time.

(Top of last page upside down) Kiss baby & Lillie for me and remember me to all Friends. Write as soon as you can. Lovingly, B.L.R.

July 28, 1898

Camp Alger

(4 sheets, 8 pages)

- Thursday morning. Did not send my letter yesterday and received yours this morning. It came yesterday but I was out of camp so did not get it until I returned this morning. We had a hard rain here last night but is fine today. I have no work to do so will talk with you for a time on paper. I received a letter from Birdell Northrop this morning. The last man I ever expected to hear from. I think Ben is a good dog to look after the baby so well. Laura my dear, I am afraid that it will cost so much for me to come home and
- (2) you and the children could get so much more enjoyment out of the money than you could if I came home. Some of the men say it won't cost but about \$11.00 or \$12.00 and others say it will cost over \$20.00. And think of the good things you could get to eat and wear with \$20.00. You could pay the loan for six weeks and have a little left. You could stay at the lake so much longer and enjoy yourselves. I never have sent Carrie anything so you can take them if you wish. Did you ever give her the cross guns I asked you to send her? Wish I could see the flowers. Bird Northrop sent me a large geranium leaf and a blossom in the letter. Wish I had some of your cucumbers. I haven't even seen one this year yet and I like them so well, you know.
- (3) I think you are doing nobly paying debts. Am sorry I haven't money for you. But I can't borrow it for you and we will probably not get it before from the 5 to 8 of next month. If you could borrow what you want and tell me who you get it of, I will send it to them as soon as I get it. There has been so much beer in camp that they want their money to buy it and get trusted for their washing. I have \$1.60 worth of work tomorrow. Yesterday
- (4) I made \$3.65 but it is not often I get that chance. It was on account of the inspection that I had the chance but did not get a cent in money. It was all trust. Was everything in the box all right? I hope nothing was broken. Use what you have to go home with and I will send money to any

- one you say to pay the loan when I get it. Fix it any way you like and let me know what you do. Well Lillie, I can get you a pin, I guess, but I haven't the price of one now. I have a few stamps and that is all I have got now. Take care of the stuff in the box for me except what was sent to others especially the letters.
- (5) I am sorry for Charlie but he will come out all right in time but think Miss C. might of used him different when she was there and then he would not got so far gone on her but it can't be helped now. Hunt is back so you won't have to send any thing. He tried to go up there but broke his wheel and had to go back and his time was so short he could not try it again. You don't wish I could see the baby any more than I do. I can't imagine how she would look and act if I could see her but perhaps I will see
- (6) her between now and next spring. But can't tell. The Washington papers say that the President is anxious to get the war question settled and reduce the army so it won't cost the government so much to take care of them. Besides the men are getting very uneasy and want to go home if they are not needed and that is my sentiments to. Maybe Rickey is coming home I don't know. He is not here has not got back from the hospital yet but don't worry about me. I don't deal in that kind of stock. He feels worried for fear it will get to Minetto and so it has. I know a man who wrote to Charlie Smith about him. I sent another box to you yesterday you had better keep the glasses and give Mrs. W. some of the clothes if (Up side) she wants them, do as you like.
- (Top of this page upside down) There must be another box near you now for this makes the 4 one. Have you the one with the uniform in it yet? Take care of them for me as I can take
- (Top of first page sideways) the stripes off and wear them to work in if I want to. Well I will close for this time and write a few lines to Lillie. Kiss baby for me and lots for your self. Love to all. B.L.R.
- (7) Did you go to the picnic? They must of had a fine time. I am sorry to hear such reports from the Menitto Firemen. Well Lillie, perhaps the money would do you more good than I could if I come and it would upset your going to C.L. and you probably enjoy that better. Well I will close for this time as it is bed time. Rec'd letter from Mr. W. this morning and one from Father yesterday. Maud is better. Well good night.
- (8) All Kisses for you all and be good to Ethel. Write as often as you can and let me know when you go to C.L. BLR. Be sure and address your letters right. Dunn Loring, Camp Alger, VA. Co. D, 3, N.Y.V.I. You left the Co. D off of the one I got today and if one of our men hadn't been there when the mail came I might not got it. B.L.R.

## July 30, 1898 Camp Alger

#### Dear Wife & Children

Received your welcome letter this morning. Was glad to hear you were well but sorry the babe is broken out with heat. Poor little thing, how she must suffer this hot weather. I am well and working when I have any

- thing to do. But work is not very plenty as the men are like myself all busted but payday will be
- (2) here before long so I will have lots of work again. Also, some money for you. Hope you will have a good time down there. Wish I could be there with you but the money will do you more good and you need so many things and I want you to get what you want. Will I send the \$25.00 you got of Charlie to him or to you? Let me know at once as I think I will get my pay soon as I signed the pay roll this morning and we got our last pay before the 7<sup>th</sup> of this month.
- (3) I sent a letter to you yesterday morning. You would have got it today if you were home. Lillie you must not cry for me if you can help it. I am well and so are you but you won't be if you worry & cry about me all the time. I am all right and will probably be home before long unless something new turns up that we know nothing about. The Lord knows what is best and if he think it is best for us to stay here, here we will stay and he will take care of us. You ask him to help
- (4) the right side and he will do it and do the right thing too. And Mama must brace up to and not get discouraged as all will come out right in time, as long as we are all well and I am able to do extra work and earn money for you to get what you need. I only wish I could earn more. Laura be a brave little women and bear the burden you have to bear and trust in the Lord for everything to come out right and he will do his (Up side) duty if you will do yours and I
- (Across top page 2 and 1 sideways) think you will. If you feel bad just think that you are not so bad off as you might be. Think of the two little children left to your care and you know if you are down hearted that they will grieve with you and it makes my heart ache to hear that Lillie cries for me. So as I said before be brave and trust your Master to help you out. Well I have another washing to do so will close for this time. Hope you will have a fine time, which you will if you try to and I think you will. So good by, Kiss the Dear little ones for me and remember me to all friends to and write often and tell me all the news. B.L.R.

## August 1, 1898 Camp Alger

### Dear Family

- I sent you a package of old letters this morning by mail. I have no place to keep them here so will send them to you. Please take care of them for me and when I get home I will look them over and perhaps destroy them but I want to see them again if I come home. And the Washington papers say that 115,000 troops are going to be mustered out some time this month, but we can't depend much on what we read in them.
- (2) I came in this morning off of provo guard at 9 o'clock after 24 hours of duty and am nearly whipped today but have some work to do this afternoon but don't know how much I will do. Well Lillie, I suppose you are having a big time down there riding around. I suppose you help do the milking, feed the pigs & chickens, gather the eggs and lead the hens to water. Would you rather live on a farm down there than live at home on

our little place with our little stock of chickens and pigs? I had forgotten that we had any pigs. I wonder how they look. I haven't heard from Charlie since you left there but wrote to him yesterday. (Page missing to finish letter)

August 3, 1898 Falls Church, Va.

Army and Navy Christian Commission
New letterhead: of the International Committee
Young Men's Christian Associations,
Nine West 29th Street, New York City.
William B. Millar, Secretary of the Commission
Camp Alger, J. F. Moore, W. N. Multer, Camp General Secretaries

(2 sheets, 4 pages)

Dear Wife & family

I looked for a letter from you today but there was none came this P.M. I am well but some tired & sleepy. I went on guard yesterday morning, was on until 12 o'clock at midnight. Was called out at 4 this morning and washed until noon and was put on guard again at 1 o'clock and will have to stay until 1 o'clock tomorrow. Our Regiment has all gone except two companies our Co. & Co. K. We are left here for Provo guard until the camp is cleared out, and then we will

- (2) go with the Regiment at Manassas Junction, about 25 miles from here. We will have to walk and carry our packs and guns and rations for 2 days but we are liable to be here for a week or 10 days yet. Can't tell when we will go. Send your letters here until I send you word to send them somewhere else. I received a letter from Father yesterday. Maud is so she gets out to the table to eat with them but is not very strong yet. I also received a P.O. money order for \$15.00 to pay my fare home but no more furloughs will be issued until the Regiment is settled together somewhere so it may be some time before I can come. Don't cut your visit short
- (3) on my account for I can't tell when I can come. If I can come before I hear you are home I will come there. Don't tell any one where I got the money to come with as it might make feelings between Elmer and Father. I can hardly wait until the time comes for me to see you and my Dear Children. Perhaps you had better not say anything about it but do as you like. We are getting rather poor fodder for the last few days. Guess the cooks are drinking to much beer, as the stuff is not half cooked what we do get. I do lots of work
- (4) but don't get any money as the men are all out of money. I haven't had a cent in a long time more than enough to get postage stamps with. I will have to send the P.O. order to Minetto as it is made payable there before I can get the money on it but we expect our pay every day now. And if we get it I can keep the order until I come and then I can get it cashed and

not have to run any risk sending it. I have a box all ready to send to Mrs. Wilson. Will send it as soon as I get off guard. I have under clothes, glasses, one pair of white duck pants for Jim, towels, handkerchief, 3 or 4 books and some other stuff. Well my Dear, I will have to close and go and walk my post again. Write when you can.

- (Top of page upside down) 104 in shade today and I have to wear a coat while on duty.
- (Top of page 3 upside down) Lillie I suppose you are having a good time down there. How do you think Ben gets along with out you and Ethel there to play with him? Guess he will be glad when
- (Sideways) you get back. Tell Ethel to drink lots of milk for me while she is there where she can get all she wants.
- (Right side up) Kiss baby for me. Well good by and write when you can. BLRider.

## August 6, 1898

Camp Alger

#### Dear Wife & Children

- Rec'd your welcome letter today. I haven't done much but lay around all day. Washed a little, cleaned a pair of pants that one of the men was going to burn and was offered \$1.50 for them tonight and sold them and done .60 cents worth of washing besides. So I have made pretty good wages today. I have to go on guard tomorrow
- (2) for 24 hours. It seems to be my luck to get guard duty every Sunday. I got three days in succession this week. Our Regiment is all gone from here except Co. D & K and we will go as soon as our trick of Provo guard is done which will be in about another week or 10 days. Ray Althouse is the proud father of a 4 1/2-lb girl. Rickey will be discharged from the Army on account of his disability to do duty. Well I have just eat a quart of milk and 6 slices of bread.
- (3) I sent 2 nice song books to Lillie and a package of books to you yesterday, and a box of stuff to Mr. Wilson's people yesterday with a little of everything in it. Received a letter from Minnie this morning. She is going home to stay awhile. There will be no more furloughs issued until the Regiment is settled somewhere together. The camp they selected was condemned before the men got there and they selected another about 10 miles farther
- (4) on and the men have to walk there with packs on their backs just as they left Oswego on the night we came away. It is about 35 miles from here. Laura my Dear, don't say anything about my money it is yours and I owe you all I can get and more too. It is nice to have lots of money but I would not give one of our children for all the money & fine things in the world. If I was worth ten million

(Up side) and had to give up one

(Top of page 4 and 1 sideways) of my little angels or the money I should say take the money by all means. I have no money to get paper with now but as soon as I get some I will send some. I guess cucumbers wouldn't be very good by the time they got here and it would cost so much to send them by

express. It would not pay. Well I will close for this time and go to bed so I will be ready for tomorrow, as it will be a hard day. I will write to Lillie the first part of the week. I have another piece of music for her. Is it worth sending home? If not, I won't bother with it. The music don't cost anything but the postage will. Good night write as often as you can and tell me all the news. Remember me to all. Kiss Children and love to you all good night. B.L.R

### August 8 & 9, 1898

Camp Alger

(4 sheets, 8 pages)

#### Dear Laura Lillie & Ethel

I sent a letter to Lillie this afternoon and promised to write a longer one next time so will commence it now as I am lonesome and haven't nothing else to do and I must do something. I done some work tonight just before supper and got paid for it and spent .05 cents for some milk for supper and I had a feast too. I eat 6 slices of bread and a quart of milk it was the best supper I have had

- (2) in a long time. I borrowed 10 cents to get some paper for Carrie and sent it yesterday. I will look for a letter from you tomorrow and hope I will not be disappointed. Have you the books, music and old letters? The music I think is pretty good and something Lillie can always play and will never wear out. The man I sold the pants to has just been here and wants me to take them back again. He had a new pair issued to him tonight. I also had a pair of new leggings forced upon me as the officers said every one had to have them. And I will have to pay for them and they have
- (3) ordered a new hat and the one I have is as good as the new ones we get from the government. So you see how we are treated by Officers. If they say for you to get new outfits, we have to get them and ask no questions. So you see how we are nothing but dogs or not quite as good for you can send a dog after the cows and you will have to milk them yourself but here we have to do the milking after they come and the officers take the cream. That is from \$120.00 to \$150.000 a month for Co. Officers and we poor privates get \$15.60 which you might call the whey after cheese has been made of the skimmed milk. Well my dear you can judge by the sound of this letter about how I feel tonight. We might have a good time and enjoy ourselves if the officers was like the men but they have the authority and they like to show it and they do it.

## (4) Tuesday, Aug. 9.

Well my Dears, here I am at it again. I was lucky enough to get out of doing guard duty today. Don't know how it happened. There is quite a little excitement around here today over one of the Nigger Soldiers shooting a wench yesterday and then he skipped out. And a whole Regiment is looking for him and if he is found the chances are he will be shot at sight. One of our men saw him but didn't know what he had done and had no orders to stop him so he let him go. Another of our men shot at a 65 N.Y.V. Sunday. He caught him stealing green corn out of a farmer's corn field. He did not hit him but the man is in

- before he gets out of it. We had a hard rain here yesterday after noon and nearly all night and is still cloudy. Looks as if it would rain again before noon. But hope not as I have quite a lot of clothes on the line and I want to get them dry and off my hands. Well my dinner is almost ready so I will adjourn for a while. We will get fried onions, potatoes, roast beef, bread & coffee. I spent .05 more for milk this morning. Had pudding & milk for breakfast (corn meal pudding) and it was good too. Ed Peavey & I are going to send another box home soon. I will send everything that I can possibly get along without as we go on a 50 mile march soon and I don't want to carry any more
- (Up side) than is necessary.
- (6) Well it is afternoon and I haven't any thing to do but to talk with you on paper. I looked for a letter from you today but got left. I have been washing some today but is a poor day to dry them. It rained about 2 o'clock and all I had on the line got wet and I had to take them all down and rinse them all over again. I hear Rickey goes home tomorrow on his discharge. If I was to go home under the same circumstances, I should want to go where no one could see me that knew me. And if I were single, I would never go to Menitto as it would always stick to me and especially one who is as toney as he was.
- (7) Well it's going to rain again and I will have to get the clothes in again as they will get wet again. Well here I am home again just after doing 24 hours of Provo guard duty. The report this morning is that our Regiment moves to Middletown, Penn and that is a pretty straight report. That is quite a ways from here and we will have to go by train and is nearer home. I can't tell anything about what will become of us yet. There is lots of reports afloat. I received a letter from Charlie this morning. He was very glad to hear from me and says he will be very glad when I get home. I will send the letter to you and you can save it for me. Put it with the rest of my old letters.
- (8) I expected to get a letter from you this morning but guess you are so busy a visiting you don't have time to write. Here it is Thursday and not a word this week yet. Well I haven't much news this morning. Only we had a good post we were guarding, a private house and crops. The people were very kind to us. We slept in the house when we were off duty in the front room on the floor was our bed room last night. They gave us some milk & tea for supper & this morning they gave us tea and corn meal pancakes, plum jam and butter & sugar. Well I will close and try and sleep a little before dinner. Now write and let me know where you are and how you are getting along. Remember me to all and Kiss baby lots of times for me. Love to all. Burton L. Rider

## August 15, 1898 Camp Alger

## Dear Family

Received your welcome letter Saturday and a picture of Elmers family and yourselves last night. The picture is not a very good one I don't think

Laura. You look as if you were nearly as old as Mr. Campbell in the picture. I haven't sent the money yet. We haven't been paid yet and probably won't be before we reach Middletown, Penn. and I hear we start in the morning but we don't know anything about it. A Soldier isn't supposed to know any thing

- (2) and if we stay here much longer we won't know anything. I have the money order Father sent me yet don't know what to do with it. Have been waiting for our pay so I could send it all together if you don't want me to come home. Will wait a few days more and then if we don't get our money will send it to Charlie. Well my dears, I have had my dinner. Had hard tack and milk and this morning I had milk and hard tack. But I have spent my last cent again so will have to take what is given me or none. The grub we are getting now is pretty rank. The coffee is no good at all and some of the men are sick from drinking it.
- (3) I haven't got my pay yet and don't know when I will get it. Some say we will get it tomorrow. Hope so as I am afraid you will need some to use. Has your money all gone yet? I sent Aunt C. a package of paper and envelopes yesterday. Find out what size pants Uncle Elmer wears if you can and not let him know what you want to know for and send me the size when you write. Our Company is scattered all over the country, yet some of them I haven't seen in 2 weeks.
- (4) Well Lillie, my wash water is hot so I will close for this time. Give my love to all and excuse this short letter. Will do better next time. I have to go out on provo guard again in the morning for 24 hours. Sent a letter to Minnie this morning and answered all of her questions. The letter is in the package also a piece of music for you and a picture of a man by the name of H. L Ryder of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Missouri. He comes to see me and I go to see him quite often but we can't make out any relation between us. Well good by, kiss baby and Mama for me and remember me to all. B.L.Rider

#### August 19, 1898

Middletown, Pa. (6 sheets, 12 pages)

#### Dear Family

It has been some time since I heard from you or you from me. I am well but nearly tired out. We broke camp at 4 o'clock yesterday morning (Thursday) but lay around camp until about 2:30 when we shouldered our packs and started for Dunn Loring. It was terrible hot and dusty. We only got one halt and that a short one. We were about an hour on the march, a distance of 3 1/2 miles. Lots of the men put up a big bluff and played sick and were carried to D.L. in

(2) the Ambulance wagon. And seven out of our Company dropped on the road. Art Owens was one of the ones that dropped out and I noticed my Dear that the ones who started out of camp half drunk and a bottle in their pocket were the ones that dropped out. Thank the Lord, I am free from the clutches of whiskey. And any one that has ever been a Soldier and did not have the appetite before they went into the army and got it after they joined need blame no one but their selves as they will have to

- make quite an effort to get it. One man got a permit to go to Washington yesterday morning and he brought back about 5 gallons to my knowledge.
- (3) The biggest share of it was for Officers. And when they get hold of any thing of that kind no one but them get it. They are the biggest lot of hogs called men in the world and a private is nothing unless they have whisky or money and then they are good men as long as the whiskey & money lasts and then they are dogs again. Laura if there was ever any thing in this world I am sick of it is this volunteer war business or the way it is run by the Officers. They are making a fat thing out of it and are going to hang on to it as long as they can. Well, as I said we broke camp at 4 o'clock yesterday morning. We had some hard tack and sow belly for breakfast and did not get anything more only
- (4) what we bought until 7:30 last night. We got some hard tack, coffee and rotten corned beef. And we just got something they called coffee and hard tack and there is some men around selling pies and the men are buying them to keep them alive. I will say we have our pay and I will send it home as soon as I can get where I can. I have \$53.00 now but don't know but I shall be obliged to use some of it to get something to eat. Yet I have managed to live so far, but we are side tracked about a mile from the village and are on the train yet. We got here at one o'clock last night and it is now eleven and we are still here.
- (5) We left Washington about 6:30 last night and did not stop until we reached Baltimore. We were there about 15 minutes. Did not stop again until we got to York, Pa. when we were transferred to another road and got into Pittsburgh about 12. Made a short stop there and then was sent on to Middletown. And here we are and a slow drizzling rain is falling and we have a 2 miles march before us unless the report is true. The report is that the Major won't except the camp ground staked out for us but don't know how true it is. Well, I don't think of any more now but perhaps I can before I get a chance to send this. Oh, I forgot to say that the order to march was countermanded and we were brought by train and we are on
- (Up side) the train yet.
- (6) Saturday 10:30. Dear ones, I am well but nearly played out by hard work and hot fire as I have been put back on the cooking outfit again. I made a big kick but it made a bad matter worse by doing it. The less we say here the better we are off. We got off the train yesterday about noon did not get anything to eat until 5 o'clock last night. After leaving the train, I was detailed to unload the baggage car and worked until 3 o'clock at that when I went to camp and was put to getting something to eat for the men and only one man to help me. So you can make up your mind I am about as near dead as I can be and work. Don't know
- (7) when or how I will get this mailed or get a chance to send the money. We can't trust anyone to do it for us and there is no postal service here yet and I can't get out of camp because I am not sucker enough. We are in one of the finest place in the U.S. I think we are on the bank or a short distance from the Susquehanna River. And on the opposite side there are mountains covered with trees and it is the prettiest sight I ever saw. The fields around us are as green as in spring. Nice farming country and very

- fine buildings and pieces of timber but we are camped in an open field, a large meadow of about 50 or 75 acres in it. We are in sight of the Rail Road in fact there are 3 different roads run along the river. When are
- (8) you going home? Tell Carrie I have inquired about the package she sent me but could get no trace of it. Ask her if it was properly addressed. I was in hopes to get it as we have fared pretty slim for the last month and any thing besides sow belly would be a teat to me. I have plenty of money but we can't get any thing unless we pay twice it value and I won't do that as long as I can possibly live with out it. Some of the men have spent all their money and are borrowing all they can but I won't lend any more. They get as much as I do and if they want to blow their money playing poker, and buying whiskey they will have to get along the best they can
- (9) for I know you need all the money I have for yourself and children. And I am more than anxious to send it to you but there is no possible chance. And there is lots of chances of having it stolen. I don't sleep more that half of the time nights for fear of loosing it. So the sooner I get rid of it the better I will like for there are a dozen after me every day to borrow it and I have to lie to them and say I haven't got any. Well I have got to get to work again at the dinner. Good by. Well here I am again for a few minutes. I never was so sick of anything in my life as I am of this life. We have our camp established, tents pitched and ready to live again. And now we have orders to pull every thing up and move about 10 rods to one side and turn one half around. Anything to keep a soldier on the jump all the time and then the
- (10) Officers have some one to boss around. There is about 35 men sick out of our company. Some of them gone to the hospital. Company C lost a man about a week ago and he was buried at Fort Meyer near Washington and another man from Co. Y was taken away in a hearse yesterday. And it is reported that a Captain and a Lieutenant in the first Battalion have since they have been detached from us when we left camp Alger. The other two Battalions of our Regiment were at Manassas but they haven't arrived here yet. The men in the 4 companies of our Battalion are getting up a petition to be mustered out of the service but don't know
- (11) as it will do any good. A sicker lot of men you never saw than the 3 rd. Regiment N.Y.V.I. is and there is but few men but would get out if possible. But I don't think but we will have to serve our 2 years before we get out but I hope not. But the Officers are making a big thing out of this and they are going to hold it down as long as possible. Well my Dear ones, I guess I will close this up and send it when I get a chance but can't tell when that well be. Lillie I have another piece of music for you. Did not cost anything. But the music is there just the same. You must have quite a stock on hand now and you must be quite a good player by this time. Hope you are all well and having a good time. Wish I could have a good time
- (12) too but I am thinking it will be a long time before there will be any good time for me. Let me hear from you as soon as you get this for I haven't heard from any one in a long time only Mrs. Doolittle sent me a lot of old Oswego papers about a week ago. Well good by and remember me to all

and lots of love & kisses to my family. Address Camp Meade Middletown, Pa. Co. D, 3 Reg. N.Y.V.I. Send address to Elmer. B.L.Rider

## August 22, 1898 Camp Meade, Pa.

Dear Wife & Children

Monday morning breakfast over, dishes washed and well and hope this find you all the same. I haven't time to write much but am going to Harrisburg today if I can get my pass signed and will send you what money I can. Will keep \$2.00 for myself. I know I am rather extravagant but a few cents once in a while for milk goes pretty good and I want some stuff for cleaning clothes with so I can make more money

(2) for you. I was in hopes to bring the money myself this time but it is impossible to get a furlough now. There are so many sick and in the Hospital and the Captain says there is no one to take my place a cooking as the man who done the cooking when I was out, is sick. Now Laura answer this as soon as you possibly can and let me know if you get. I will have the order made payable at Clayille as you can't get it at the lake. Good by, lots of love to you all and Kisses. Also remember me to all. Tell Mary I can't get any books just now but think there will be some before long. Tell me all about your

(Up side) visit and I you are having a good time. BLR (Top of page 1 sideways) be sure and put the right address on Co. D, 3 Reg. N.Y.V.I. Camp Meade, Middletown, Pa.

## August 24, 1898

Camp Meade

(4 sheets, 7 pages)

#### Dear Laura, Lillie & Ethel

I received 3 letters from you yesterday and one today and was glad to heat from you once more. I began to think you had given me up and was going to let me go entirely but I found it was not your fault. Our mail was in a terrible mix up for some time and that was the reason I did not get your letters. I received 6 letters yesterday and one from you today and expect another

- (2) tomorrow in answer to the money orders I sent you. Hope you had no trouble getting the money on them. Wish I could send you more and could of sent \$3.00 more but I kept it to blow in. But will send a dollar to Lillie for a birthday present as there is nothing I can get for her here that I think she needs and she can get something to wear or for school or any thing she likes. Or, if she don't need anything of the kind put it in the bank for she may need something when she can't get the money. Let her do as she likes with it if she wants to buy peanuts let her
- (3) get them. I worked for it and let her go and see what she will do with it. I can't say when I can come home. I asked the Captain today and he said he could tell anything about when he could go so I guess I will say no more about it. Others have had furloughs and stayed over their time and nothing has been done with them. And some have had to go to the guard

house for from 5 to 20 days at hard labor but as far as hard labor goes I get that now as the cooking all rests on my shoulders now. But the men say the grub is cooked the best since I have been at the head of the cooking that they have had in the last 2 months. But I shall get out as soon as I possible can as I don't

- (4) have as much time to wash when I am cooking as I do when I am drilling. President McKinley is coming to review the troops next Saturday so I suppose we will all have to turnout and tramp for about 2 hours for him. And when we get through he will say I have you under my thumb and I guess I will keep you until I want your vote and then you can do the best you can as I have no use for you now. Well my Dear, it is out of the question for me to come and go home with you. Wish you could come here on the excursion but it would cost so much. It cost \$6.00
- (5) to New York and return but don't know what it would cost from there down here (that is from Oswego). No I can't come now. The Officers think I would have to good a time. They have been home and they don't care for the men. One man came back this morning and his pass run out Sunday noon but nothing has been done with him. 2 more men went away with leave was gone two days and one night. They are free, but if I should do any thing of the kind, I would surely get the guard house. Major Hall is no better than the rest. I have no confidence in him any more. This war is a political and money making scheme for a few high muckety mucks and they are playing
- (6) their cards well. I wish you could come here and see the men eat and what they have to eat and then go and see the Officers or slave drivers eat and what they have to eat. They sit at a table and have all kinds of luxuries and where do they get it. They say they are paying \$5.00 a week for their board but it is not so. The men are forced to eat sow belly and hard tack and the luxury they should get are exchanged for something better for the man drivers. I have no love or honor for them only as we are forced to honor them here but when I get out of this outfit they can go well I won't say where
- (7) especially the Officers of Co. D. This country around here is the finest I ever saw. An Officer has just ordered the light put out so will have to do it as I won't have time to write any in the morning. I will close so good by. Kiss children for me. Remember me to all and lots of love to yourselves. B.L.R.

#### August 28, 1898

Camp Meade

(2 sheets, 4 pages)

#### Dear Wife & Children

I haven't received the letter I have been looking for yet and that is the one I sent the P.O. orders in. Haven't you got them yet? If you have let me hear from you at once as I am fretting about them. It is money that cost me to much hard work to loose so much of it. Well I haven't much to say but I am lonesome and tired. Have been on the jump ever since 4 o'clock this morning and it is nearly 9 now and Sunday at that. But Sunday is no better than any other day in

- (2) this outfit. The men have to eat just the same as any other day and as a general thing we have to make an extra effort so as to get as good a dinner as possible and then it is poor out of what we have to get. The most important thing I have to say tonight is send me something to eat. There is one of the men went home today that will come there. His name is Will Purdy and he lives down by the water works or reservoir and he said he would bring it. Send some fried cakes and a chocolate cake if you can and it won't be to heavy for him to carry. Put babys hand in the top of the cake and I will Kiss it when I get it as I guess that is as near as I can get to kissing
- (3) any of you for a time. As the two that went home today did not ask for a furlough until yesterday and I have been trying to get one ever since Father sent the money to me. I find the better a man tries to do his duty the fewer favors he gets so I guess I will get arrested and put in the Guard house and then may be I can get a furlough home. Our Company is all broke up. There are so many sick. There is about 30 of Co. D in the hospital now. Some of them are very sick and others are just putting it on so they can get a furlough home for 30 days as that is what some of them get. I don't want to be sick but I do want to come home. But don't want to come back here again. Well, I will have to close as (taps) has sounded and will put out the light before the officer comes and orders it out as he did the other night and I will have no time to
- (4) write in the morning. Eddie Peavey is quite sick but please don't say anything about it so his folks will know it as he feels some better tonight. He is not in the hospital. If the Doctor was any good there would not be so much sickness but all they want is their money. They don't care anything about the men. Oh, I forgot to say Arthur Owens is the other man who went home perhaps you will see him. Well I will close so good by and let me hear from you all. Kisses for you all and God bless you all. From your miserable soldier Father & Husband. B.L.Rider. Middletown, PA. Camp Meade Co. D, 3 Reg, N.Y.V.I.

Sept. (1-4), 1898 (No date on letter but best guess first week in September)

- (First part of letter missing)...Keep for me for I found it and it is just what I want to trim trees with when I get home from the war. Laura I want to tell you something about Ed and do as you think best about telling his folks. I heard today he was quite sick with a fever. He was taken to the division hospital the first of the week and the report is he has been sent to a hospital in Philadelphia. But I can't say for certain. There was 3 more sent to the hospital today and another goes in the morning.
- (2) There was a man named Thomas in our Company and he died yesterday. He was sent home. Had a relapse and died in a Syracuse hospital yesterday with a fever. Well Lillie, I haven't heard from you in some time but suppose you are busy taking care of Ethel. Hope she is well by this time and how does Ben like to have you back? Does he come home or stay with Walker? Well I must close and go to bed so good night and write soon. Has Purdy been there yet? Remember me to all and tell Mr. Edwards I can beat him one game for farm money or marbles. Well

Kisses for you all. Tell Charlie I will write to him soon and excuse me for not

(On side) writing before. B.L.R.

(Top of page upside down) Ed didn't want me to write any thing about his being sick.

(Top of first page upside down) Will try and find out where he is tomorrow and let you know but I think his Mother ought to know about him at least do as you think best about telling them.

## September 6, 1989

Camp Meade

(2 sheets, 4 pages)

Dear Wife & Family

Received the box & tea yesterday. Many thanks for them and received your letters today found me well and hope this finds you the same. I was laid up Sunday with a headache but am all right now. I don't know when I have felt any more encouraged than I have for the last 4 or 5 days. I suppose it is because I expect to see you all some time in the course of another month. Everything is pretty (sure) now and the quicker I get

- (2) of this the better I shall like it and I guess that is the case with the most of the men specially the privates. Well I will tell you all I can about Ed. I wrote to his mother all about him. He is in Philadelphia don't know how sick he is but he looked very bad when he left here. But it is reported that the Soldiers get the best of care and have any thing they want that will not hurt them. There was one of Co. D men here this morning that came from a Hospital there but Ed was not in the same one he was. He did not know Ed was there at all and there is no chance for me to go
- (3) there. If there was, I would go and see him but the Captain says there is no one to cook if I should go away. But he did let me go Monday to Harrisburg to get the trunk that Owens brought the stuff from home in. Owens said it was to heavy to handle alone but I handled it alone and had to carry it 3 blocks on my back to get it on the street car. And then I had to pay 30 cents car fare for it besides my own car fare from here & return. The cake and peaches were all right and would have enjoyed them very much but some one stole the peaches and all the cookies but 2 and all the fired cakes but 3. The cake was all right they didn't touch it but the tea is going pretty fast. I am
- (4) trying to doctor up 3 of the men who are in their quarters. Cooking something extra and giving them some tea now. The (Dr. M) knows I have tea. And last night he asked me to put in a little extra for him and I did so. Told him to help himself when he got ready and he did. And when I went for some there was none there so I told him if he wanted tea he had better buy a little and put in a little extra for me, but he hasn't got it yet. Well you will have to excuse this short letter as I am to near played out to sit up very late tonight and I have written to Mrs. Peavey so will close with love to all. Hope I can see you all soon. I will have some more money for you soon. Good night. BLR.

(Up side) Many kisses, love to you all.

## September 9, 1898

Camp Meade

## Dear Family

I haven't much news but will drop a few lines to you saying I am well & hope this will find you all the same but I have been sick for a few days. But am all right again now. I guess I was more scared than hurt. I was afraid I was coming down with the fever but am all right. I sent a box by express this morning. Did not pay charges as the express man did not know how much it would be but he said it would not be

- (2) over \$1.25 and I expect I will be home some time next week. And I wanted the box there when I came. Eddie Peavey's stuff is in there so perhaps you better not take anything out until I come and then it won't get mixed up. I hear we will leave here Sunday night but don't know how true it is. I have some money but will keep it for a few days and if we don't get out of here by Wednesday I will send by P.O. order to you. The 22 Reg. of Kansas left here this P.M. and I expect we will go next at least that is the report. Laura, don't try to wash any clothes until I come then I can help you as I understand we will get a 30 day furlough. And then we will have to report back at Troy N.Y. at that time
- (Top of page 1 sideways) to be mustered out of the army. We drew our last issue of fresh meat this morning and that looks as if we would leave soon. Well I won't write any more. I think I will be home to tell you all I know soon. Heard from Ed yesterday he is doing well. Well good by. Kisses to you all. Hoping to see you soon. B.L.R.

# Returning Home

From the Palladium Times, Oswego, New York

"The war soon was over and another Oswego unit, the 48th Separate Company, known as Company D. Third Regiment, New York Volunteers, returned from Camp Mead (Middletown, Pa.) in September. The returning soldiers were given a "royal welcome". A demonstration which in magnitude and enthusiasm surpassed anything of its kind in Oswego's history was given by the loyal, loving people to the self sacrificing young men who represented the City in Uncle Sam's Volunteer Army. The men who came home were all present and accounted for. There were 73 (plus three musicians) who were healthy, 14 on sick leave, 20 were left behind in hospitals (one soldier later died in December). They were all mustered out on December 1, their uniforms discarded and the volunteer soldiers dropped out of sight quickly".

Copies of

Original Letters

Monday Morning 9.30 Dear formily & friends Me one here on the train worting to go to thempsteel nothing of impostant yet had a good slep lost night there was a big for all along Mica me did not slop again untill me get to Albany me had Sondwich 4 boffer for suffer & logger & Sandwich for Break foot in our comfor sock from Mars Oliphont ne got a fad Bible comb medles Thread buttons Chenny gum prope of totacco looking Class your Bondage Line

mother & soft emeloper percil and a mumber of other small articles mare greing to start now and I could write any more they live remember me to all all well and feeling mell gard by Rider Don't write mitill you hear from me agoni Blek Engine first franced the track no one bust

Address Carry Black Hempslead Thank for the Lietness Camp Block did not Know they were Dear farnily trusday her will this morning May 3 My Birth day yearn all right yet gam on gard drity today our company is mider special orders we are all packed ready to start in five minutes and ase synder arders to that effect there are 9,000 men here had a good sleep last might Me on a flow 15 miles long of 13 miles mile and can see from one end to the other me or at the south west corner the leasts are as straight as you can draw a line we had wreat polatous

May 3, 1898

affer Bread & Britter +C everry out seems to be happy me one drawing state how 1,25 aday home Dring and fefer goeing some where all the limy me had I hours drill this morning you will get all the ment Concerning our Company in the polladium me have first had received orders to get ready to more don't know where me are going address as above good by Blek

May 5, 1898

Beleficles
mile is our folks and
your them my address
and well them to swile
to me fort do not lock
for an answer array soon

Comp. Black 48 Seprete Co doing of slaved Company 2 le amp Black May 588 Dear family and all of am in my tent have just had my dinner of have been on gard durty since Soclock Mednud ay morning so g did not have time to write yesterday we are all well and happy as can be under the circumster we don't know how long me will stay here you must not look for a letter from me every day as my supply may run out but stary thing turns up of suportant Grill let you know me are Oning the most of the time il in long any drill in Morning 6.30 Regimental

drill at & oclock for 2 hours Battallion at 2 P. Mr. every man is obliged to be in his link at 10 velock P.m. lights out at 11 there are 13 mour test of had the first good was today ... smel I left house not one of our men have had a letter from home get of guess they are all glad to get rid of son this place is oversun by peddlers the boys will take a mans sig away from Them and run it in Comp take what they have unwhitch The horse and let it gog Cont think of much to write teday of ann to lived and sleepy to think of any thing y wish you could see me as me ore here it is a right there is somewhere about

a thomand a cres that is Coursed with less and is well so me can de from one end to the end a number of our men run gard Last night and are under arrest today none of Minutes have been me brouble get of am the first of Minsett boys to serve as gard. Me get lots of popular received the Carreys proper way for the first of proserved to write to of our Me Longhlin Will him when you set him of well do so when I am feeling better thom & do to day write when you can let me know if any thing happens have to all doll de harder read all song letters if he would to

Wednesday morning have just been to breakfast all well of received a letter from Charle Smith last might of you set a chance tell him as send word to him that Stokie was rejected and there is no sickness in camp and that we get all we want to est such as it is it is not fice cake and the like but is good solid food good essough for any poor man to live on growill write to him soon. Lattie you must not sold Ben tell him to be good and 4 will send him some Spaniard meel. how are the Chicken Come ing an and hove you set any more hears Wasel call Sounded Good by

Biss Boby for one also yours seturn Blothider commender the address Company & 3 rd Pro regiment

hour a chamer of post of 5 years and the said of a second soil of a state of the said o supposed were busy fores and how op of mercy of how a more of round to to the first him former of the corre of the desired 2 mo goine of my my reme how is an more properties may by of a way as so see not the girly of my for they to men what to say to gin about dillie Camp 12 rack May 24 / Sonos like to how her laft showing to Charles the second of our well and and was nerry good to nee from you we y think tharlie has done pretty it count me will and culting meating well to get the mele half planted and acr dinner and that is my fun to first most so much usgett hove you Last errough for 96 ones and soll from second the genamenon per and had there all ghave shorge of Affronces the flower seed corners of the ? Comesary department for one confing dalian of think Binminst hink now grave Iman over me and thret. a great deal of the bally change a moder were your day to be the mich I could set her if I am good by time the had react buf builed Time years she will not know me of potatory coffee hard sock on una and at all get out of my pretures y had cheere Baked beans yesterday y don't taken the day glift and somet have any more grant duty men to her and tell his who it is ground and modiffing to do mow and g like one my self but cont offerdat? hove from to to primerate keeps you can get one is anne just or & dining the most of the live givene you wish they were taken over and Today only four arrests best

y do not base for it nor hovert might but none from our company drank any only once and that was yesterday was a very rainy day some hot shirkey one might when also lost night so there was not many that um the guard of war not feeling well & think y told your about my lesing rick it is a closely day today but but am all right now your don't rain the men his talks you could come and see it makes a great deal about I ake and he me feel home sick to see other peoples others too but Dake is the sweet. friends come to see them but ment be done so much talking before come to see me but of know the cost he come down here I had a long would be ligged for you wood as talk with Major Hall yesterday Well de harlie my letters are to be says there has been money raised him as much as you wish a for the enjoyet of the soldiers tell how I have but little time - family and you should have To made as y would write to him your shore of you meed it let of have written to from twice Charles are know we hovest received our Smith south to me and gansing pay yet but as soon as gds Greil here and wrote to bother once and send it & year and then if greed told him to sessed his letters to you any thing I will let you know and you would send them only money is many score in comp me some could both get be now there is lots of beer ombinkly be sather of them. Gelout know drank here but am hopky to say

me none porter from by search promote by mossy fero my fit he had not tilled to breeze her was new territory or or of Jude may ha marks the man ham the a said and mad princing and Burned for y cont think me mile downed and have summer must been suces the my your words of no purpos our The young we was you love to y though my we is my myself my or mye gring four Hay way buy more was browning and they only get distroyed after Camp Black I hunday (month the out nod so I sent them home May Les 10 1 That I hallen 4 tile to have from Wast them it's of received a letter from you lost become to read tell him of think of ment that was mitten way y him every day as if he was the you must be and first the only friend I had out side of it me of the Segment on there ex any family of think of my with 2 , 6 to get lost our key we 183 and Children a great many times there as a company to me morely a day I would like it may much every Big. We received orders to of of mean when of could step not go to them to see thingsome near and see them today of dose smaging to go to day but it is saming you the at the sound have so hard the ran been part ever savi covered will potatoe and 32 mitell tommerow at 2 velock grease and be file by the seder of a no don't write again witell her hidring the potatoe on the of you hear from me again and her mother sit rained all right and hard to on the other side and to have I some of the leasts are affect in his place in front of the 3 ours is alleight get but the show with the cot in the should senter it someone fort

the hord of note for the horse is years grange granes of property they arnall wight of done a small gam met is the skin now and have to get out to see washing yesterday tomells hankereby about dinner soon the bour to and they are not get don't know made a Rick his morning when they will get dry there is no become they did not get onich stareling and morning here it is mar get them else of you can and fa break fort growked untill hoff fast eleven last might fort there on when you have to g packing up striff to answer will sent you a small bor yesterdy in the of Minette Shade Bloth how to muhack some of it for soffer how levels fordends Company so it would go to out me had only hard tock and Mirrelio and you would not beent Coffee An Break fost some of go to O energy for at of did not Pay the bour bonght they ought to Ox charges become y had no ording have something where be cause it you will finds hard took books rained 2 of the cooks or once and 2 sets of crossgrams send one set to & love of would have sent them organitarile would not get ente and help about the break goal sof from but could not get any thing had to get out in the same and W Look them in the book I man for see to it my self and got good and thanks to mad and let him met but I have a change of Keep them is you don't would them Clothing when't clears off galso sent one to him by mail that are dry don't morrisobouton last wight me have late of them

Darrelover Wermont 3 Regiment N. y. Wols. Company D Dunloun May 29-98 Dear Wife of Children We broke comp yesterday Saturday at 2 oclock artised on long queland city at 2 oclock took the Heary boot and max transfered to of cracie city where me took the train at 6 schock and orrived at Philadelphia at 11.30 arrived in Walkinger at boelock this morning and at Dunloven Imples out of Mashington and sout our the line an hing med at 6 oclock after which see had a 5 mile march in heavy morehinguely where no got her me

May 29, 1898

a would like to see you mere pretty well faged it is very warm and all to might kish the children there is a hard thronder for me lots of trivier send my address to som raging aron and a horlid of milk t some of the borgs out out mil with out a rag on Rob Pleasey as they want warrie o to mile secare in our cents buth our grown and the light good might my Dear Arifet to hildren ming if flock my and mile or your or you the thomales cracking 4 gove standing up and writing Con Roy Class 20 home the watter is andring nich to see you grill right through our tent. mile agant of soon of all have nothing but the Clean took a bath ground to lag on but no today will have a make have one wither blonkers tonterm net good by once more my 25 of to fint mudes me me have OKisses for Box all regiments from all ones the Murited States. Well. Blektely I ment close for this Toma spell Donnelosen with true ms

ready to sign articles of peace but don't know any thing & Dear Wife a b holden obout it out can hear lots here. I queste a few lines to you last What is Will Me brays address migh bout as you will see it of you know with the sim and was mider difficulties of t is tell him where I am and may be very worm here to day and the he will come and see me at in I men feel the heat very much not far to docking on some as it has been so cold and net here of don't know where Ed is when we were there is soldiers Thatest seen him since morning here from all over the M.S. a Reg but is received some where well from Misonra landed here today Lama my Dear y am well and there is mo telling how many or hoppy as con be under the menther are here but to girl Cironmetances but knowing white a quest & should say there y do about soldier life gant & has 800,000 to 100,000, men think of mould rolinteer again, the complement hundreds of acres although it is not hard nock; but it not level or it mas on or far as noch goes but stis & b. g. and There are lots of woods serry mapleasant to be away the lightning stones a number

no times in the on the control happelyer Breek show you Franken & hey ory, as linken humander me & Mederade this morning at the reducing of treis near our camp east might the men are digging deteles and critica of am at my old for but news under bruse in the moods making Sto do a little most work as one of ? oads digging a well aink boles on the men has been taken from one stops and most every thing you garg me well have boiled could think of one of our men went rice for suffer all of our watters to amgo lost hirday to has hos to be boiled be fore me cano hother funera said he wast sme it to deink the sould hong is going to Minello g' will him g'a in to cool it again ofter willing go and see to harley and he raid of have the ficture before me as he would. Me are all well in our farm writing it seems as if you & company welft once in a while & were all looking right at me a head ashe A man in one of this and y think the boby in making Mors achinets beg died this morning a bow to me billie is langhing Conservet known 3 & parish & and you look as if you were going spice have been bottered one of to Kinsone any way you all look the escaped and was found ; very pleasant and good to one oh hanging by the meet to a tree how y with I could see you frent & in the woods this morning It papers are score here haven't seen it is also reported that some one some we landed here so don't one from the Michigan Rog Know schot the was green in but was bost marlialed and shot Udid hear to day that Stam

becomen from the If received your letter part before dissues and many fact to hear from you best to Savage give one illiterator gest some severet was Let you feelings get vising from your Krep Cherry at and think of the time when it whell come hover which of mall of the same there are not yearly to be That whilly is a to be hope the me I'll emple to the time to see how if would like to see you all the wall will not love the exist to see a market did a list Court is way the Last Time of san has was The sunday & court look who were At last multie i not me our ded mores I & Riesed by mo less than a degree ton established in hood endland house direct of hined

HALLE HILLS IN THEELE DO NEED MATTERY THE WAY THE WHILL HE WAS THE and tried to make her soft but she would not by my kiring her how Growing had notioning map ment if have your pretures when a can look at them while g am writing they look latter to me enry time go look of Them of with you could offeed to hart the all taken to gether with Bern in and sins Them to me but as money is so recover perhaps you had better sent lost overting swould do me most good. I am in the snow position of war the last line ? wrote don't morry about my work ing to hard y are at work from 4 in the morrising mitall pour I take at myse ful may work is not hard boton it is more head with their very thing that both if are bon very the corner of the Frank of Christ you done first right to 4 Stop Hall sails he min is there for the and of the well himse by press of the party market the fine way of

	and coc amport in energy to me and coc amport in energy to the point new your get to some y
y y water to and	

Land how in the first of her and how a he you will be the second of t of sin car truncay and answered the at all all one would and me my the that I amount or some or and send want paid was body all about The contabastion page Dog " ar all y send you is need to ask with sofue doing y had a norther your day of anne glad to be a land was property of it is to day a load to store till baller to me and telling present to send your what I get & short nove is set sond your to down Hall son a set is a grant and mo out They recovered was weare most have morning and and mague . & a make in the dant they over housely sugar tall to have I have to get it for from out to must mill and said by song week that & thank & con next were have a board governy frag here to the assured would there is a bundle of hard took in it for you

mently o hungry before might an other me we get to whole every three days no got some to day and have it allow the fire ronting now and have a keep irraining and looking at it to see that at don't bear it is write a fol to took for 94 suren not have 3 blow of plans but it it of no well are as me case only make flour arany out of it wednes have some milk britter and the like to make burescribs not have baking Powder Sont work of real know don to me it ne hart to being one walter about 2 Miles in fails and beiles fort there is a steam drill fruit Come into our carry this ofter moon so 4 thurs ne will have water non som medny a well and get natter but is fromsed dry the med of the time some one

3 3	

in at its grante exal here projectly from fine from their these well as it will had he light he get to get ment and have have not and only an orany blandstones don't get any three to entrant or to for I neg feet bed be adjusted to how 44 of warm one one of the second of the Jack Marke and not a Cartiele at and Regionary and tolk mill of organ the mapling gale way all weight that me don't careful any form the Muzel South hour an it had a comment down han hearing his soil the how the state was a state of the think is a splendid distrem seem and son for the officer and Com hope the whippen with will mild man the telescope and the second that there is an selve accorded to propose and done There are amonde in the second of Mountain of Mountain par Conghit and the wast long and all contra a great should Get in a mother town of the sec. May : 4 rent a letter is the last so mound bring of owneld wither The state of the part of the washing That a man from The and Real Ben- fruit with here be to the wind Thank with the state of the sta But out of Their and I have the work 4 and the second of the Day The market well work a degree many out of the opening which

me of feet and the house war covering thought the terminal of the boat forth remembers me and tell him y would I nowld most it and 4 by the Longer, me lets of and to have been been anyon an might by for what you are down of for youll as from your monther do your of them out love probably bound in the cool course up and then and and all rayed and at the condition of the land the annual to the the third of the third of The rest als sier were son some in With a contract and one heavy have been been then your place the quelles which we will it had some year. There year mane he is the court will the extension on it grave me mounty on to me eveny those mother does it does when year we were also the other than now if you don't want Them say do not on the bill that of hill end hat me mand it if have area had all some and it and and day you Could do a better job on them for your proaches and dot the burry bushed a same norrelen shirt one of our mer ner all ny in yourd whap In In Welle and wing But sold all and all like his whiteesoft and and a little and with Sittle and Ben out Ben of he gent think she month tent. and y will feer Them a way as grand fall live and rest him back at somet and which is a south hick of will a drive of the Good street it of have now 2 Let of good rounter moder to thing that at the golding to leather it among y come lecence 3 good wast few to are should y some one fine show? told have not to till at happen again Mell 6 hould I have yould a

Man to this you will get a wood to Morning with a few or property the R. F. a garan of her opposed it again mill new wheel or no your which where many brown look only our you hank Let you I more game & sur your a great son and it must a constant and great the transmission the white was a got when the one of the property of the property Orani denne heil to made by your groves their and may pook any may by you apon you you was a select and week the same you did the last wine I would be make you ask but you keen a variet of here were of think minute was not the the property of the first france of france of the formal with and smoot your Dan her youth 9 and Min Kin making every day -Carried the will be let grouppen the and mon of thought of you all many and to see the see of the see of the see of the see of Mukosboth a work of some delication discoulthan a we have is severe as it hand survey best me to from & defends to my prof. of M. J. in my Now to the my E in home are repense that if you the Road some little ditte - m - mark a come could need get - gettering as any your near with the lines. Chart was the second was the second round Trem to a creek telli damea to let me Kingan and your carry court who does for howard through If has a brown booked happe their a reserve La continue in the Common of a give from but and mily your not have the will chickens with the said on the by the way towner land and a fact or cloy form Bond and in the Middle of Page or would the y-deflaying mathymic when y get house when y through with a meet of least of fame while by home

were haven an explanation and snow was all through the Beginning to llow and there is a great for get every less of it when I get it was able of welk and trained with break fort me well brilly had not and if it has sing an the repent A con make my hove had now wifter and as only one cared for ally and it is The component has gone to bead Opposition of the 5 to their will be a areal well a hear it bronce in a hay they Like had a file in money I had them our honey y separated in smay and seems to want to deall sectional a south frag and over of way out it while him has weeks My second and areas and and as mules of such a few hillings to day gold willowed with here down to stillet the Resissant has just a mill at have not me and the have one derive all washed out work ex course in a will be on the see it come it were presented the course over all like but there Well wing a car you aleast to land well up and and an the different all deplease for the magnet for milk some and by that toney your will and Like a dog a Lail Last you me Sam words me metall he gets through coner one leving populate as fact alchen and of any poch before as they some get around to them deduce & will had to go aden mile am sent to say I hast my desired Cheep once it would mek a pleasure good the least by any mile and y for you yet but gle on that the was engine on your cot the Ray of will if I am where y trould get Chiril was noweld soled head Lord and their sheet free were not my a water on ston more of dont. met be the some little lanny you made ing moderable will the 6 wante ston and me was to my Last much in the life of a

now be good thibben and write a good love to be him your found ride at a transfer of say bearing strong at and get of aff. is more than when I and give one of and if he was not as a suck out of our ment the hours of me fet the the way was for They was the the the the The Markey Whaterston Page or an in the Second and he a bell deally and nothing and no here to throw them away called the sight more on my hose in got any more to be very them to have great track by how y wish you bould will be a good. But the children an economical from Coney has here here I have I dead have dead I and agoin for me of here there is yethoug for and black of me stay The state of the s in your old sold we class as a sty on and making you to my to court doons a court - sun sand history of the as your fam fire bety of and and surfaced ground for your the property of the form the same of the s Mall many them I would chart and and is nould book their up her ind The Dark was account of the way that the will



Falls Church, Van follott 9. bear wife & francis when your hoursely gamen Chan with the rist of you Grant you a letter yesterday morning telling were I had sout you are that was my for tour the Housement great the mancy by Sargent Lines Husen haven it get goo hill get at some he was all words to go who the first Sangerst course to are and post another for hollar dold freet mise hand and tell me it was a present from the company for densy the feet is could for the boxes and of could and key the team back thorthink hat they thought as princh of one and the good it would do my hear our at home mon me it for the things that you all need so fad am army your not exceed upon the other & o Certe as I made varients whater smaking clother for 2 of the sones, and think years make armorey enough to get what I smed in the may and per hope a little and will send it to se a fast a g get a hole or if gengaport alle for Combining 8 grands + 10 for toloads intender min seve they are entire for thous getter and for comulting

That you need to week expecially the bose Besterday was a hard day for me out of the miles working for mel was land out and the other was not feeling well so I had meanly all the monk to do beside I had some extra to do the boy a being things to well to Keep for them each a Berney would chemics and Butter, to keep cool for them so gesterday I dry a role in the Towns 4 but long 2 feet und and 3 feek deep mad a dot to fish in it with shefore in and feet this streff or it is it will keep writell they coll forth it is an aufull bother for they must their stiff first when I am the divingest at meal time and -That mittal I to tal Chair a self where select and some of their took of the others and there I was Hamed for it so I well bed to tend to stone - a ar to the slasme leastan tift told ask this amount in if The mos any mus stuff takes and that did not belong to the one. As took it to fell the hole sex and let them take done of These own strept he also said some of them did nech Koron when o'ver not don't bear a feer. The make the word getterday ming and had been Kitcher man the best arranged and ileanist our muchy Regument be lough arrowed engineering and me how to Knotte and get the downer mounted and sought up before he could



CAMP ALGER

dense of the boys go to Marking for every day but I will not at as it costs morely and not med day last now some of the men who got their for might defor and we get to but with out a cert last ment there was han your Poker all day verterday and but come cert they had one young letter from Court and C lost all be had in about an hour and went down lay in often his last and now good The man who got The great of it gave from Lock 1200 and he soldown and went to slag my agon this morning as soon as he swollowed his break fost don't Know how he come out another man in on Courtainly was given Blown by the boys because he rad a mile and how thildren at home he also ment to de law in Lifes and lost own 88 to the Love my they will via king me most link and sind it to his family but they will not send any money to me bleams of don't know how to not it when I have at he if shall send at to my Decrose at Love before Those a chance to get will of it and arount were le realist for your selver and not dell that a

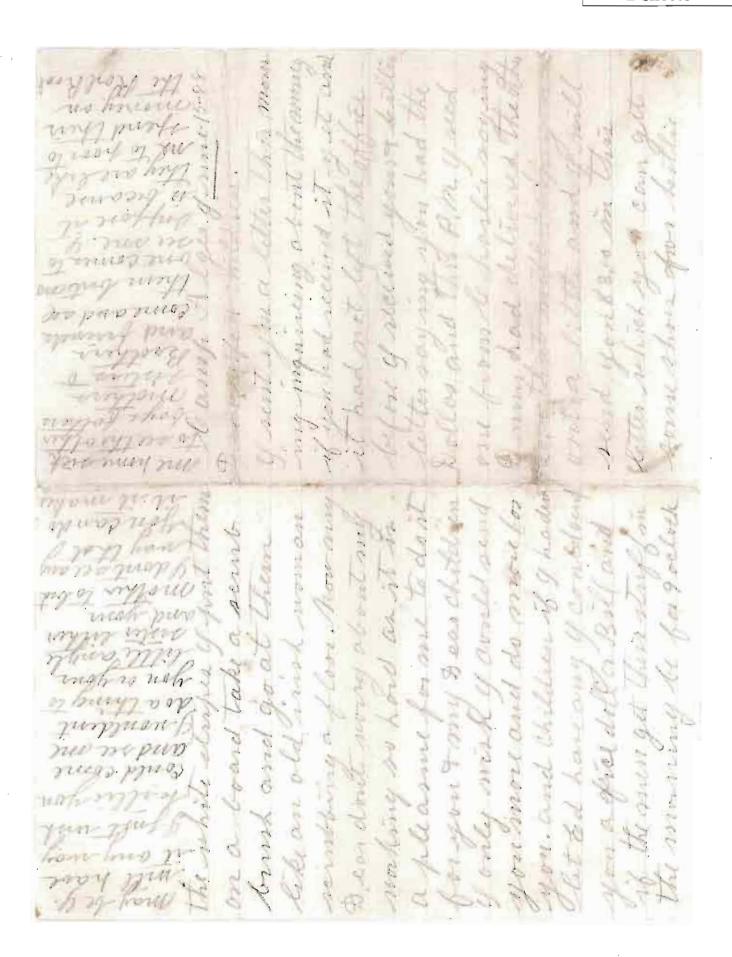
Comme of the way wear they are to for many 19th starong Changet of Cities before I deast all many many quetes of should have next a for of street homes conditioned of mapping & across + & built of had pack age relled up to send by to aroun best he had demonstrate to county had if did not and and V. Truck of it Chicamore and 2 B you wold presented you get The gold who do were think I received a letter from attacked don't think you could worked well it was the said she hoped you would not get used are the set as all had been the many of Gwill worth to her teday of 4 con get I don't Know white & told you I received a from Charge or and he soid that they sent and a for May 2 1 but I herest received not not and get to reach for the ist have I had had book for bread fort have it much bunklas at home some meaning arrest with her fall + hair fall it solves hat I get Ben now make took out for the will be that it have a tool Come get what for I hald a road was in bone of with of sould all you

Fall Church, Com I will a letter it in Letter rearly 12 hours drover their do will are you assether told longest any have been long to most of the day a base secretaing to the for it of have dere a vite a fet of maching led and have every a more to go to while an and the world are mounted over in its ideas ment of mart is in to a took for her as a The only thing of consider for use of heart and dellar that the plant of the same and the part of and there is so westerned and deal home or while being of return recovery and and and a suite months for the second in the action of the a There of the care of the state ( 22 mg because the first Chairs of the Living Com have They of your mount to give them to have on more can up town a weld it trave heart intoit & Town WE CARE I FINAL STEEL STEEL Most I have some I am sick of tracking a storet mounder were get as it sell a martin

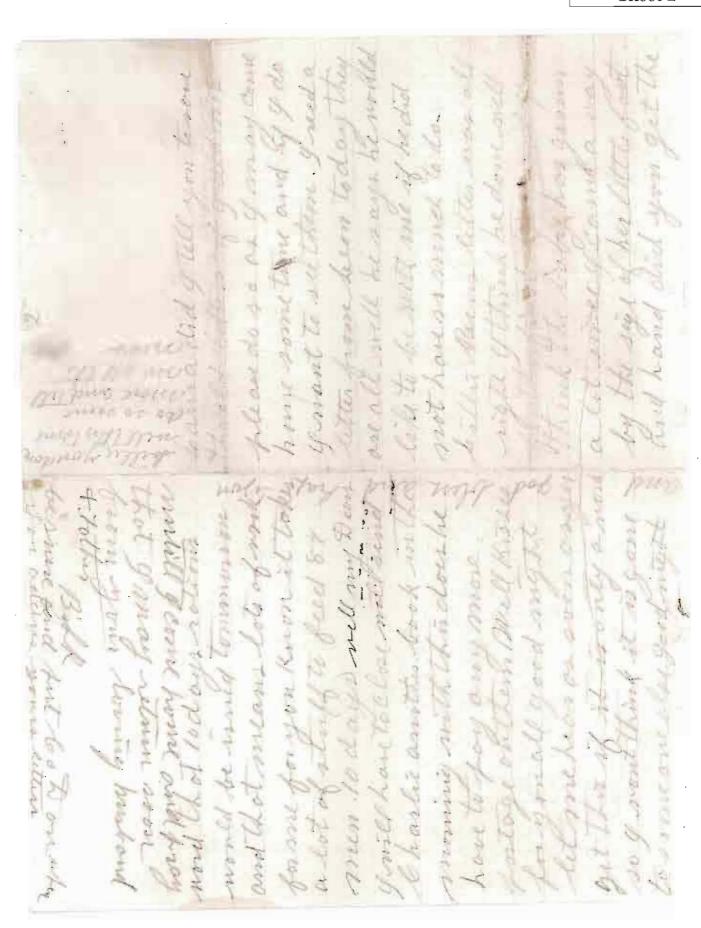
Various of horse of purpose was better nevery of pre of cooking and mosking alles for y someting hock of dant wast to course and are get to stray such beef and had to overles dames get tooknow about they greaters of our hone to fay stank for driver not had stack is Colled fotolog Bread + Coffee fordinger ast for suffermented woralous Cooked Bread and hund offer and for treak foil we will his deviled foldour soiled set & Breed & deffer 5 Bronday of hove 2 poir of parity to wash and freich which I shoul get batte a how and a will read it to your an soun an 4 get its exclude you will finds 8 400 all some del Gedry and of told your what to do with it and I leavedo as of with you is with this and noncendo or you like with the wetone Thomk you feelled for your letter at closs lets of be for and to get them from my Deor doughter how of would like to story on don't in think the balt sould made a few lines to and beautiful Could if you would put seem muchon asket his feet and a sheet of paper where he could stepen at try it and all Wellany Leave it is an don't y con hondry see so of will clove hours his The thildren in me and to the 4 to the wants of wing arother from our and was it says of them to would - 4 will stand Thin with out stooms become

I have just further my work and will talk with you a few minutes although 4 am very tried towish I have been washing all day except when your getting my meals for the men & have been alone today the company was all out on Provo smood except The siek ones and that man 24 some Than is but very few that have not been sich y am one of the fore if have not had a sick runs to except a cold since & Eft home and alining me to be the fitter of do more work than any one man 4 have done the took a number of days and lending to my work beside the other cooks had been sick and goods not get any delail to help me as there nos so many sick and they had to have he well ones to drill so of have to go it along but y beyon to think 9 can stand west any thing non y am as block or a mig but there are others well y goess of have grow led enough Grill write something else on the other side

and ing the counts and & please were not it was grent you some money andile ago but how herd nothing from it get and y am anxious to hear from you as well as from the money Grent youas to so will and 25,00 gold precen by Sorgent & non and the next day y sent you as one & ollar little in a little and of have \$ 4,00 more in money and there is and there is 28 145 oweing to one and y have at Eddie have a dollar. Gnill send you what I have as soon as I hear you got the other and montel toke to send ; it as soon as passely for y know you need? oll you conget and I don't want a keep it here for fear I will love it and of have to nork to hard for it to love any if have spirit sout 20 for milk and 10 for tobacco but will be Carefull not to should any more for burners as of know you med it worse than I sreed smith Well my dear ones I will short for this time as y am to tired to write and of have 4 markings todo tomsmon of sent you a bot this morning by freight so you will not get it for a unmber of day y did not pay the fully ht as I did not go to the Depot myself of have lote to say to you but well want suitel. must time may be youllget were tomming often many and they must write to delle t The other lettle angle down hellie bal any deflerite



Cashen to y think the board in to take queen and of proste inte sect much bot of think for any Esor ones at home. 4 and late of week to commenced of here beat from best of nouse for land who were beet you be got for any service that an house and con a con a forth one of the men serving if did not get for part and for becomes count for los money word but on he gives me good health to do comy thing before dismer to move their pay for it Often militing to you y have don't know marker of lold samed to cente to day same some america and aspongs bout it is grid a lite to a butter for and may be Brot mas 25 Carola to your ske that orace but is carriedo



take Burning when I you will you be mill be stronger band day with board and though he say him sefet all and of the front of it then is a man while of an minding here Corner on the monroes - Mark and while Intermetty goeing to be eday I who there Man Work of Mary Mary of Care the bake, Makage a barne tour wormours on my just got with above much succes Chare what we want some think want hard and make homself that if y see born of mall thing of him he rome all tell him noth noch to an internet the payment and as the transfortine do y but your servent by good to him he story's these the mount in breedray muches the whest and world and a lothing he has a yound he come make book claye look him & strate and LEST wing a want but him . Churchay Morning Soul mirenes all it it a pros day for drying clother so will adjuning and takk with you a while and wash later of it clears out and if not y will put it our mitall tonerrenzon atthough & david think of an arrived as y could lost might but will with something bearing ment me a for by mail will find cokes & cook res in it but the were pretty well broken up but they mer good sind every errors & cater close send any thing that will stail if you send any thing at all This Pearly said the war going to send a box to ted so if you want to put any thing in put some fixed cakes become and a package of too but don't send them bearing yound them you had letter more the money for your own west as I am getting much to array good and don't Know what good gard in that has no ashes or dist an it meget a lot of such stoff here I have not bun out of comstance art come here must all of the men have been

to Washington will whare not but greek Granded if y could fonde Wall Meleray so a could get my dimeres out of him at only Coto 46 cts for the round try from here for a Soldies does Albert Goodier live There now. We have plenty of water new and gred watter too these are 3 dratted wells me our Regiment you and more of there is less Thom 60 fut deep and one of them is 190. Carl of our men has gone to orrege to his mother francial Peter is his mount me have 41 Prisoners in our Reg the smort of them are under arrest for being drunk but The money is getting scorer and there mont be so many down them I am one still may Coat resterday and at well as hard with him when it is found the caploin is looking for it and rays he will shower get it todate has just got another dollar of one only assight depose last I let him have a dollar and now another sorperen it spent my money like that is Lot would were eag. I have 2 brindle of clother by my side that has come since I by an to white and green if had better step writing and get at there Well I the if am ahad you get seems sach for Children

Fall Church, 9 did you have a good line did Ethel go y support she had to speak a piece dident she I make a letter to the band some line as Southount herd from any of these I suppose they think to asso valy a soldier and am not worth mortening to now to allow your mind be a good Dist and tell your mother to get you a wheel and of will try to carry money enough washing to hay file it don't think you wit have to work and carn it is me self anto as of con work and cam it for you if she con get and payso an amount of will fax the fire doll are as long as y can get markings to do of suppose the body is not every thing now ronning away and pulling the flow set and every thing else much even aroundoust Krien how I revealed like to see you all does the body eat potatoe with his hands get and put it in her handrell the sur is comerny out and I will close and go to washing remember me to all

and be a good and and help your anolder ally on care of sent a bond in the bot for Boby a britton for you and books for Charlie & anna please save the old letters y sout me the for y monder why Father don't write to and bull is in mante to him and tell bein to south said one address will good by and lots of Kinger for you all have a four som do as you like with the Nother give them to chooled or key them gest as you I know to them as post marked merry I wan as y did not have time it would be a wood plan to mad all of Them when you get live nell agod by any airs with late of love to be come cout hosy to go to most remember me to al

mas of ferent muse my med of the sun do bus that of may be a letter man reduced might and your when y got there the last lelly and good yet took it lime of ment of could not help sheding team to hear to be him to more to den when it does come wand some of the men talked ? an no wicked of dont as there is any hope for me hear it makes Int shoulder to hear some of the men of the source more is of me talk they cont may among my to all or mit much with outadding an oath los a sold last and that & Well my dear yam & would not spend any more west of have spent 16 cente cry my and it is about Time for tape so y greek again today & have to had I had better close for & much make forday but had Tonight don't lett forthis had some this is a great Know about my crying a sight down here it is

June 17, 1898

made Ity call for butter mile away lote of the books day and the sethern to some has preces of Brick mood are Elebrationy on great stone and mails out of shaft are can see fine worken The rome of how not and her canons allersond been our thise get but it is like the 4 of going think of will go small ag andy there is fire mock in if y can get away from way distation Band - I my mark Sunday is playing and mere shorting mo different than any will holling it was on this other day to the Squah day of the month the 17that going lasthe cooks are the bottle of Brinker Hall talled there is services mas bought and it is here every Dounday morning only 2 miles from our evening + Thursday might Regiment and in side the but of don't get my not come the camp is I mile done in lime to go much of nay the old Halifax have been to the Thursday Resident is in night of duning services 2 but me is only about to a they now measly out

CERRCUTTERFECTERFECTERFECTERFECTERFECTERFECTERF

y think of will go to Washington Sunday if y can get away as y mont have any washing to do that day if I dom find Will it want cost me much as of con get my dimmer thise y wish of had some of your fried caker here of mouldent do a thing to about a dozen of them of also could eat some of those berner of 9 werether shawberries are ont of to season her me can get blook + Real Rospberries also long Block berries a schapt

tune 23 How the Bak against wet? Tho. Camp Alger of none 23, 98 Dean wife & Tramily y secured your welcompletter this P m and youdon't Know how much good it don't me to think the money arrived all night and just on time to get my Deas little good some shoes of sent you some more this morning hop you have it by the Time you get this I have bun very burny to day the Regiment went on a long march this morning and y had to mork motell

eleun velock last must and was my and at it again at 230 this morning gam a lone again and had 13 min to cook for had my dimmer of ready and about 10 minutes before mess call me came Durm with 27 min and 9 had it all to do over again so I had to over my branes for another hour our a hot fire fry my bacon as what the Inen call sow bely and about 90 degrees of het som on my bock it is acres norm her on the day time and cold my tota. Well my & son 9 fooled away some money

today of bought a little present for you and killie and a man it going to dring one for botherm the morning there are lots of through a man con spend his money for but when Gall them of think which will do you the most good and say to myself the money will and go on about my nock of sama badge today governed like To get dehorly but the pines was to high they will be Chefer in a fewdays and then may be y will get coul for him of want to said him something

Burtey & Rully Book min stern book do Well de alles of greess of Well not had a nice shows have beetweel you Enough so y will stop it and grans gustostop untimes for this Come as it is bed there made to our of two and of still try and amount them take good come of & the & Bung and healthy tonight and Kild baby for me and your mother to. Well good night make me happy is to be all let and hear from lyon I when if could see my Dear as soon as you get other a mife & Children Waint as & shall be arreing to Know So sellie a package that of you get the money. lots of Kristen to good all it all right of have another rememberine to all y will little present for her for

here torregal a assol about 250 men mer out mild mild out a ray on them 4 mas one and of feel good now post on some a lean olother and shared and am clean & the only thing backing to morning hepe she wereind

well to allie how are you if am spending lets of money lately greek y soil have to for money have you got stop it so as to served more any of you haven't let me for my dear ones at home - Baron and I will send you some of maria haventany to entry but have potimes for you to go to festivals it is getting mean for with yould send you soul day ag an and then you for your self bout you must will have some more to remember That you are a help your out a little. Can you keep track of and from mans doing his and don't spend to much but Grand you if you con 9 If will do the best I can wich In would so you see of make as much for ston su you can have some of the pleasures of an q would at the factory This life but you must Oh of wish you could could be a good girl and a bay and call on me but The your heavenly Hather so. -pros cant note in shysic you can enjoy as mount as the new do she do you of the met life as the rich en to the hake

him fried of me was and the said that horse his bein special surpes or Pathery + Met anothe another y do boplane Tife bearingent Dear May 2 + Farmaly but of tell you of was on of anciency week out but the map the most of the of feel at very desty and as lime. but it was my -planted to a site to the duty and groull do that as long as y constand with triball and send you a little of the finite of my of asked for a pass to tatos which is also a Washington today think pleasant enclosed fixed \$ 714 I will go about Louisday of generalary morey enough for you to me or you think to take me this before the bist of morte you that our Key inust were enter time and of think years No Tong march well they but of feel that I am Robing you and my little Carry book today about ones of that amount & & to celver all ditt and tired out and grand to done a washing for there

ne 25, 189; 2 sheets

lay in the shade and slav get dinner forthere all a come lost of resser they Loker and of done their work so to havent counted a cent when the company of year of extra money today for ready for them there was you your areas flusting The wife son district Teday metrod Jaked Lock & Blance today just after dinner. potatoes coppet Bread thas the heat was terrible morning me had hams and of was our the fire eggs office Boem & Bacod gelling the beef ready to roost have cocked/17 yesterday ne had booted els of beef their of les moon Cottoge hould Poloteis coffee 4 Broad Thad 112 Loavery will tribut up cold for dreakfost and fry some esteed severel total obout Hoeler lenight 4 have only Lot a toes this measure y mas up and had · & loans left say may magine that the men breakfast all ready at revilue and mo one to eat a cette the other & cooks help me but the onen has not done a thing since that ment out on the they come back only

COUNTRECOUNT COUNTRECOUNT CONTRECOUNT CONTRECOUNT CONTRECOUNT

and y think me with come home soon after that good by you Dean and be sure and riste I havent had a letter thom any our since lost Thirday Kish babe for me Remember me toall (dident find Wednesday recouring that Door Family gonest to avocating ton yesterlas will write about it when have anout line todal

Sunday might and your letter here get best will not fail to send it me the morning of have been madela foolof ag own taday out of the Croka ment to bollington and the other has placed poker the most of the day and of done the nork so of have it had manch lance to properly 4 think 11-will the Wathrigton Freeday it it tout range soil frule Will of & con

have had the promisel anitte This ar 2000 62 mother Sellas in the you get it if it is only a frital sond and let morning fort Know as of mill get it but hopely me know if you get will. Well of cant unite the money of begin to think you don't get oll much to might y and to homework of much of my letters that has contedatel me and mothey in them of greek all gono for a perminute of will have to mart at least to might but it mortill of get anough is over of the question so it will boy to get gama long my from a money trades you it has been timble tostler of guess you had not here today for for better give up the wheel the babis where was the untill of come home heat there hot days and by the way throngs well 4 sout think of look in the paper the y mill close good might cleaned out pretty soon

Saturday night and won send and any more mutill letter not good get but rost If ask for them as it is and send it in the arming hard to Key them here of amoult yet and an for they get strick to gether buy as low I have norked. and there is a place to this after noin but the boy them here mound murring we had to town of hove lots of money ment of me many fee the comment of me mon mill of will offere dident get livre to do and go to bed as yam much Eddie come to me sleepy and tired more Kissy for more marrier to righ to the abildren to yourself he manted \$200 torrible good might and wish at that makes & 4,00 Keones of ten an you can Iffeel me mon and y hard better than y did Rost & you my posket mount good might and which of will send you god bless you Bited.

all of can, 2 of the company in this letter making 8400 received received today I have mad and got and There rale 30 overing to one about 25 men each and the report in that we will have makering 8/130 21 99th st since yout you the goo ours meet week every compa in to be recorriled to 10 borner and y expect to get \$12,42 from the state nowsoon that means more work for the cooks. Did de allie my & cas it is a pleasing get the paper of sent her to me to send my money If have some mostenelogy bone to and sny buldren of think need which of will send with well pay our dete of detrosties book for her and of can get the nork she must que Charlie some of them do gant myst along as game stamps enough on the mon of have to turn dite of nork away as booker of send to him if of caret mark for the mit let mie Know all inhole Regissent and can get all the stamps Cook to but will do y want now don't

an waiting ford a best these wondots of the

and homes a wat appeal to hund the morning but I could no helf it if ne dest get the street to cook our cost cook it. These not a great excitinger here in come last next the cons he quest dottle first war by the Amusto fleet wheat my gold hurrant never hard from all our the comp measly all mother y was up at 3 solved the morning become of consideral of cep Chera nos ou missel mores the torrell with the pockage of had trop on hos you let ice a level new chief much court ceres thene to send it solf gundont get them there will or no loss but get bein if you con attinh of Pears in is them me you well the noting is hot overel of want in get I has me the mounty and trood by

Danting mill be answere them Tell The boys of and ever with bombording all right and that 4. am sorry the sivile it so commer all letters sent to slack hope pit smill be me and will amour any better & parly you are out who will write to one nelcome to the strick and except Dake the blinker floriter and the candy of don't want you to hay for them you have have man Charley of arright for them a great many you take anth an interest tomes already of sulled in my interest are alroyd The penset of of can dist you are working to hard am afroid of cont get any and then you mant to have sent to Markington Lay for a cheap out of 300 4 Limes List roster got buttons no charles y don't and seet I near lineky in most you to do it of getting the strole for you out you more than you They mere the dost the man do one of remember golfond had and there mas 2014 after perhaps have better

La grand of and help for the Cont tell & have another box of clother forked and mailed my terest to you howannel being linesome many thanks did it cost to send it and for the Rose Does Fred work on is it worth the fresent let The Butt down again you hate to lost though miknon or soon as you board in he present to leave you con on 4 mont you to get Gam syry to be mark hos. it before you go to the hourt besself the 11 th mos a good Looke there are some things dog her commence fire execuse mit for you all so + chair buttle alld og and gree them as derected in out the engineer the rese your Box the books are for field of - 200 With with with an contle desorte the tonelle are and first baker is and seem some the men chongist Brown Ben Court Bloom R of mere not worth washing and minine it was out and of died so of most of continual stream der them and sent them obsent 4 hours of much home the crossgrinare you could have neen it for haller they are what wird head the music it me have to men the spoon seas great of hought of no for to that if it is offen a street amount town in there don't Know

uly 7, 1898

on the more house the los I had the Mund mysoul and went away out of right and trick like a child of Considerate enjoy the form and you so for from one and nothing to enjoy but it was one of the greatest day in Santings as your Ben in the if you can care sun by the paper that Sampson dischroyed the great Spanish fleet their was a great time when the orlive reached here and me get it direct for the President at Key immedat head quarters as soon as it reaches him Lanra would it be spending money poolishly if you

Jose for Jose of the St. which we have had your pretines token and send to mel of well do little tetra week if you frink mot and pay for them but if you had rather have the money don't do it much More de prova do as you Christ about zoeme to do de but of think to would do you all good perhaps of healthe hand by the true you get heady to come home and may be g stont goost tell but it look to one as if the rior someled met tast annich longer but

That I Turn hours Jak I did not the district the the but CAT A LENGTHE WEST OF THE have you get the Bretween get Camp Alyer of sold to 95 and the morney only of hour Libear Hannely & Breezeds at And arranged the Letter about the Miel be illet of returned your Courself her if you manite like December letter existing you much by all breasures and mar many glad Tool that Estal mante of you do it as it is as mean as g don't deme her of her mich can get to you it found me when she likes it so well well and working but my. Well faller of cont lest der face at ante sole yet your much about Marking to your me had a River live That it will have to see it to tell any could get into the mill be thing about the splinder of so large of will not know the place the book will explore her when I get have you willes how of son self god mornet to confirm of her when

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son as in the ree with of re on ferry lesty wet there is some money me it her 4 post sent the other fire of minia in another det fant and of told them not to make it restudes there is something it would they got to Cany in it for all of you tell Lama when you get letters with I harlie to open it if you go remember them tell me and to boto, before it gets these how much so Gwill Know of diel not pay the freight, if you get what I send you how more did the other of mote you a letter a minister cost the spoon of spoke of letters will a doll or me about of formed and sent by and you don't say a most meand today also another · about there so please let me package of paper also one to Know when you get a letter with to harley and one to Minnie morning in if have & bee in any If y have lots of more clother pocket for you soon but don't and timels and will send Know what to do about sending them home if the furght is at will not send it mustell not more than the striff 12 y hear from your y nest a month the letter you stake morning order for \$23,00 kindon

what you hear as there is no aliek There more mich y could truth in it as any one Krieva step in and su you all and of me hear every thing here one dont be surprised of good but day ne are going to denta may not be in some than the meet day to Postariea and - gate of the sale of the sale of from The meet to doney goland you to mot get a Bake mean to do gasmood duty so as you need what little Dr. Billywodont Know any money of can send you for Thing about it any more sometime else more than than you do and mo one a wheel by think Ben is a will know mittel ne get good dog what will you take orders to more and him me for him y will give \$ 200 and will have to go whent secon here is your money ment sent no don't worry mitall as let momen have it to me for you and Reep Ben mitall you have some thing to none

about of don't pay any attention many hor another bil they or what y hear it is time to as well as con be expected. soony when me have to you Now Little y will ammer you hart a friend who so better letter y will send you a fire whom if and of it is his of music which you con low will that y shall so to the to sing to me when y get home from he will take cost of yer my dear nothing does me you me some way and probably more good than to get a letter from my dear ones at home better than y can think of my tornamy took as block as a no beille key them of you mant to or rive them for any muser from the survey South and don't look at the dock side Thing you want them for for there is always sunshine you might send me one of ter a shoner of man thinking so y can kup it of you have I had westlin to y am and q witten on it but Reep the think I did don't will write rust I can get some hest agam ghavest within to you had gritte a time with the Grandmothy set received Cour gestroute think gou had a letter from nother leday better sell her if she is a much

dance Alyer brief 12 98 little Angues and Kiss Tomerelay the may them for me evenue Dean Jose + letterones foor moleny as it is received your letter today Monein & hurry and was good to been from resources ou to all you and that you were How is Mort Mess all well of assimell and - Good might working of sent more a Leonen ly your letter Heriday mounting will an Mostly order on So sellie hours my it for \$2300 f changete Lorley your faper you would get the Solved lay hape you have it below This time is not let me

well it is about and larger and Know at once as I had to of smill have to close econse nearly to hard for it to this short letter and let love y have a little anout me hear from you about for you as soon as of Know that you have that the money and watch and the delles from Johny Claney says his reconcer y sinteron people are home and sent Action to destine the letter to you that day this sommeny the comp probably you have it before is perfect goans glad this have you en got ony you sold the own as it watch from Bruten + Markding if you borent saves you, lots of mosk but give the boly alishe mounts on long on of can Gast aletter from Amount work and earn it. self flet milles and one from Bratter today and a cord 4 mill close and mill mile agour when ghow from Holder yesterday more time. and a letter from & Stocking take good core of the and Father Salmetay

New York Volunteer Infantry, 1st Brig 2nd Division 2nd Army Corps, Camp Russell A. Alger, Ta. will and all and leftered Autodoral som de a decount of the as 9 am also - and and out of maray 4 tasking borners no and am drilling with the company and washing when I get any to de a had quite a lot of month for your THE REAL PROPERTY AND A PARTY AND as if did no don't make

more money but me a make of Con and send um & have the set some for butmines this month have bringeth quite a lot ex work but feel quilly every time their as of those it is takened that the wich away from some Dear once that need it mas than I do but how resilved to be more controll and not should any most when you much it is bad of west you a soumerial of the company this muck and today another bot of dry goods and some glosseste that I pied my and cleaned the inall once are for the small coldren also the select the 2 Active of the last one the orner of bus from the passage that 9 go asking and y don't

3rd Reg. Co ..... New York Volunteer Infantry, 1st Brig 2nd Division 2nd Army Corps, Camp Russell A. Alger, Va. month or more along to look after and so I send the see were if years Come back of con the later out at amont cost and I a to Kun Them the lettle books will con give anon to who ever who is they were sent here mith some co and o Howard to be world like them well of hart to be and drall would do much the bound to Miles Mary I and have the man of your fell Mara Proces and on the plenty to ext and a regardly to me had coned So France potation new bread & coffee for Ardinner Roost beef pololice and of lover ground Aread for and an termatore potatore refreshred

for Breakfast this Commesson mouning sie bil Borled River potatoes Bread & roffer and we have had Rice protoling marin biscorite a boiled dinner of Look Cobage folder and must any thing that con be get at home except his capet to me haunt had pea song but louse ance are come there me get butter once in a while rehen we have the money to buy it with also Eggs and black berries me have had 3 Crates of them lots of beanes both baked and boiled me have some green omions & coblage corneing tomo rrow if O news says no get nothing but pearoop he tells something that ment so The lining is all Richt there are some times it is



Co.....

3rd Reg.

New York Volunteer Infantry, 1st Brig

2nd Division 2nd Army Corps,

Camp Russell A. Alger, Va.

it is scorched ar issit quite cooked but very often. Well my Dears by the reports here tonight me will not be bere smuch longer but will be at home and there is where the most of me mant to be if me are not manted to defend on I las and Country this life. is not a pleasant one of orner you the ground is a had weel when you have nothing but a thin unfler blanket to lie on some of the men have bunks of have one made out of 3 green poles and some bronds

2 sided on Them to Keep one off ground but it is not server solt and the tente one crowded so it is very supleasant of haven't slept with my clother of since of lett home so if I do ever come bonne and get m bed or moder it on the floor dont number at it we one med to st and sley just as well as of me mere on a bed . If bought muself a wash took and board of my own toright of have lost lots of work become a dident heat a trule to sund with how you ever sent my Recolour & havent Received it get if you have I send a pin with this for Charlie have you received the spring of the and proper of sent to Southe + Charles

Co..... 3rd Reg. New York Volunteer Infantry, 1st Brig 2nd Division 2nd Army Corps, Camp Russell A. Alger, Va. also the pretures one of the comp ist in perfect) and the one come and the General please tell me when you get there thing on y am androna for soon to get them Them some time man -6 the pretines of dident port an stamp on become gandent get them I had money but thest was my stamps to be got in camp sortie gam ad that you sure pleased with the bett mama must look quite gay with a fancy on greepect to be home

cong by the sound of the hapers tonight miless. something new turns inch of feel girle encouraged min about getting borne soon and males something new torns sop that is not Koronen of som Captain Tift mest to O muyo today on a 10 day furlow of could get out but it would cost so smuch that The money of would out noute the you and those st now for me to come bount and have to come conservation that of monate chose for this time hopeing his will find you all well tell me all about tather and take good sent of her and there has lots of times for and and Lille to am in hope of can do it my self before I mig

Frank Dake our mis. 30 conte and of ton sould get their Fisher and Doolette once 2003,0 of him it would be argood of The organite you as long as Dru Last to Day their If The las Carry A yer yor by 22 1 Lends for Commerce letter from and Der hama billing the of ances he will first it is you of received your long little year can get I Dad won go to the and at a time when I had manie of rope near Rid on deilless the through the de and some think account for of Amor who would in think about you array of there assisting to sound & Can are the general his and the get a lett for Correct of you The man that get the mail think are mould like it out prosen where of was and dent con no gonza. Fram in retad that body reasonibus Gernath at and are well and had told more me The freture Granet be ince to myself thon of did good of the Emma whit when I now recking and saiding and estay out like am not reasted to death and and and in some

all the time and love set more than of could surery to had took it the feet is all well again that has feer many good and family More madelling to have me where you could set me any getter than yourset where for their while you could see Will hama you most not work to hold you keep proceeding to soil about whose River hard you as west look out languary self 4 am very glad som sort the money of send you for something you need and it is a pleasure for me to search it and be " able to larin it for you

am glad you can get smithing Low Stady of thrush while issued cook thick in a subsite deed immining arrowed get ble at bornet and do you think one of these bette would be mich for her of you dotell me and I will get one for her If I can have nothing that is anounding you and dent speed the mounty report might of less to hay the dand some if non haunt at all your their what now can apart but don't not your self of well have some Mond for for in about 2 muchs probably about 32 1 00 so you can figure on that

and shared it with towns many see the work one of solermy change Jung care sell cape fried cakes Moulacher cheese workers and oliver prestler and carred front Cell araz Droins me had baked rook of Bearing goffee & borland for derrores Little John tog you much you could come don here of stable you doned Log of posseldent the a little se whole Americand Assessment and Mullann sia mer havelyd an would have you come with him if there was any may to get non home asom I may from by come some on allowson if me aling here month longer which served your rather have me come some for a few days as the messey it would

hope she will account his and adon't get should for when I come home 9 around to find a me fitte girl which I trising I stall of month line to see way protect but suche at month for to result to here do gold your de mith the poses ander me the line from taches arrived when if you have at is a few of the wat you to enderly will to have so mores and be while to get mover those for AND WOULDSONE of second like it some and hard all delets passed and sell week and com mount for you to pay them with as long as y can get the most to do y am glad men dielent except any thing of Page

as when I come home this went have that to theen at and af y can get steady work some sching else Glant Burn as Ganill ask. There for work but don't tell and me about this for 4 may As spliget to oak them for saved of rest short of the boy. by some out don't know who of war in have new fatalous and they are serry mice too of the is many dry and not here lots of LAX Miller Callet Oss town The woods of have find and a bid one of themen ment me with done and me bruitt a denthe decker was in model of it of prior it is fruit

of removed pules and in quite comportable better than the ground Mad & grand of will arrayed billies letter now well table of think that tother must be quite yours sody to tack much your much leach her to matt made so she com write to one of don't see many houses here but lots of should many seldom a brengete but Cols of min and array few mornin and thildren there mor a comple of morning a man in one level from to och melon Today she fromget a large basket full of good storff

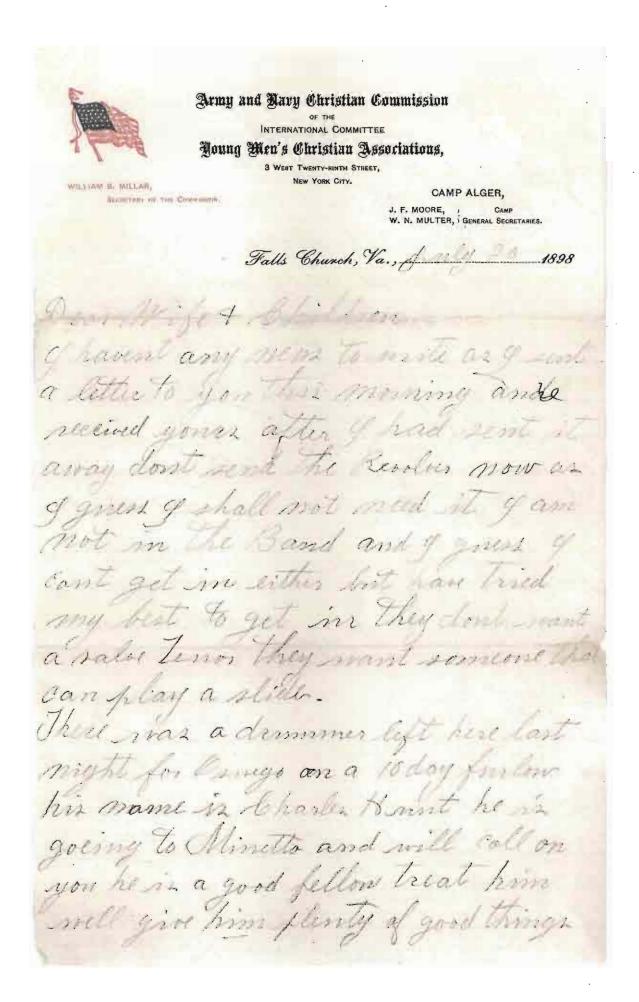
not for more to come (3) and ballie there are ones all essend me drink ind are there goemes to be mound bur some are so dring the angels mak I mer ther Cere hardly art my other a set them down mount each gar with your onen bett Boild land out matistice how month you like tear 4 mas so mana oh my she must frell of liver & confident colo y mar there y torsick of mount I but don't you morry allerion 42 26 Palest Sineste Try it and almost fame at and compenses had the 2 is sent you something - Engineer at a street fall of an out on the make street at the street of the sold the same of the same when de in a come of the court of and Oddie Porsey Oddie is a & molescoid was any mounted speed been first be specialist at all for there is something ats of this arrange for at tell the time that I could tell Cake cookies it is matter metter down down porone of whom he willing Albertaly the all will if is building if have trained he can offered at but I'm hand as I would like to would rother send the money accompandate these who 19 wen so you can have to marke them you can tex they to get it mesself well good them no they will not by and mit when gonton

July 17, 1898 Sheet 3 Mill I gown of their day world to amol of war I received n letter traver Carrier a den-days a geo pope hors will fred you all well it is surry marin here today of an out on the sociols in the shode but White is no assisting shall look her to hear little Liver you tweedow here some will have a good land at deed as deepe mich of more These to so wild you LIST WAR THINK IN STEEL TO and often and tell mical about your most and good the folda there it Sloope a letter like nowing

asked mearly every feeler That comes her to try and get some for one but cont get any get of how a siter of sing with my mane Company + Regissest stamped on at part 25 cente for it of cont tell your diller or relder of south Court home before you gut book or and probably met sometimes of think of world the bring soon and their The Laters talk over a going or court tell and throng about it I would like to dense bonnie of a strate oggin you demissed of much The Total fold affect and your then while it is seend

Cooked of Course me have to look our an apen fire and some dest as about to blow he wast tost it is a lean or car de had it takes and to lay are than mamine by one hall for a meal about 12 bushele of polories and 45 les of bell and Dear Will to James 30 loans of bread for a I do shed for a keller farise meal the bread is surry good you tiday but did not get and tresh is baked in the nt hope the finds yourde might and set set statust well as this leaves one so & solved the met air in it of sweedled in getting some in still marin some assert more buttons today have it is drawn from Washings for got who would said her in large overed wageness. wanted them of sent a with you house one harm set to fire Witton don't and from 40,00 to 6000 164 let his pay for them and of Bread at a load and one you cando as you lett Regiment takes a loade a about the others They are 25

Then notestal was suit y שות בל תוני כד יולוו ביניון ל מוול לינים they are for our friends and maria a look and dont charge for them last have another for her which if More Mead or some one of will send as soon as 9 like her gets them let them can get a stamp and will hay be their it is very rend her more of them of marin here today and has she wants them as therese been for a minuter of days Berry Cheap and good reading but is raining quite hard sold mana wants and now and will be croler more tell me and y suite for a while ofter it is our get them for her Me had a out of our walk out of our good dinner today hambury Court ains had a simplifie steaks amothered in omore This a Mr and is mouning new boiled fortatoes coffee get an amterlance took him and bread and mintand to the Hospital a short line how is that for Prience Rea ago be was a recent from Soot dont let apy one sty Syracure of sent you a you mplike that as me Restament this morning have good turny and well



to eat and any merage you have for me he will bring. Mr. g onez. Mas very kind quill write to him when I have most bine of am on Inard Today went on last night at & orlick and will get Reclined at & lonight of think you are getting along fine paying Dobte of gress you do better when I am away from home or else you are a letter manager Than I am I am disapointed about you not haveing your fictions of had look forward for them to arrive but may boot it is just as well to pay dette first or a little better. Well of have me more lime now so will close with Love to all and lots of Kisses to you all BAR. Send killi down here Most Charles thant Have to have the chaptain put his stamp on and of

soon in the text y has a wille of any over out raide in orderet wither any one on they don't toller me I he may whether took over at is they of the Landton soll and seems & Raise at alles lance Dear fries this paper - 12 -1-14 mails exited Later mater rether dirly but is all 9 to woods and is much sometime nose out here were the mosts when each only it is by every with me so grand I will Ana man toget intered time me it I am good mama Linek and 2013 prices of stone cikes the books bout the det met way whether she did as have Longotten the mames of ont of the old Gener Mentice rouse, will seat them to you sometime before long thell trails the ones of sent her it you They have now to hear from your will tell me the manney of work the holy for one and whe well was if I can alterna good the of her maile as often thing afficient for her and as you can and tell now all the send & her in there enough neigh when you go home whom fortage on them am grad Austrago y will History where to wind There were have another Trans good by remember one to my new dress is Mr Chitted longly sense Balonder hame more

Gshould thout Merlie was Frish & could get some of your for making gritter wind der you much have all your leady probably the anan you don tell nearly all and mon to max ani of our men asther you must be gelling to be are 2 on 3 of them away The and a house Keeple your most of the triner 2 more mother is away so of less ment bond waterday this areaker brice since 4 life Latter of am yours Syou can't come she has left gon alone come down here but don't think to Hut homes Amour is ready it would be best ometalf by I still have to go and eat star nouth like to have get det so with ont Well I have had very how me have to live here and Linner one had baked pork & what we have to do the don't Lane Coffee & Bread and have all very mice for any one to had another shower and looks look at especially the truck on if we would get an her som Lillie you are a man your to go there is some one goeing tour com suration set out lists to the kg his we - he lots of chances for you here a good girls apple spor all all all I dan tuck you to the home but may be you had also to a gold to it is better 3 me it up and and spin aling and weter me sher is cantless to reary got on Come as it is so more her - at paper and there is not It might make you see much to yill to interest about

mille and a small one

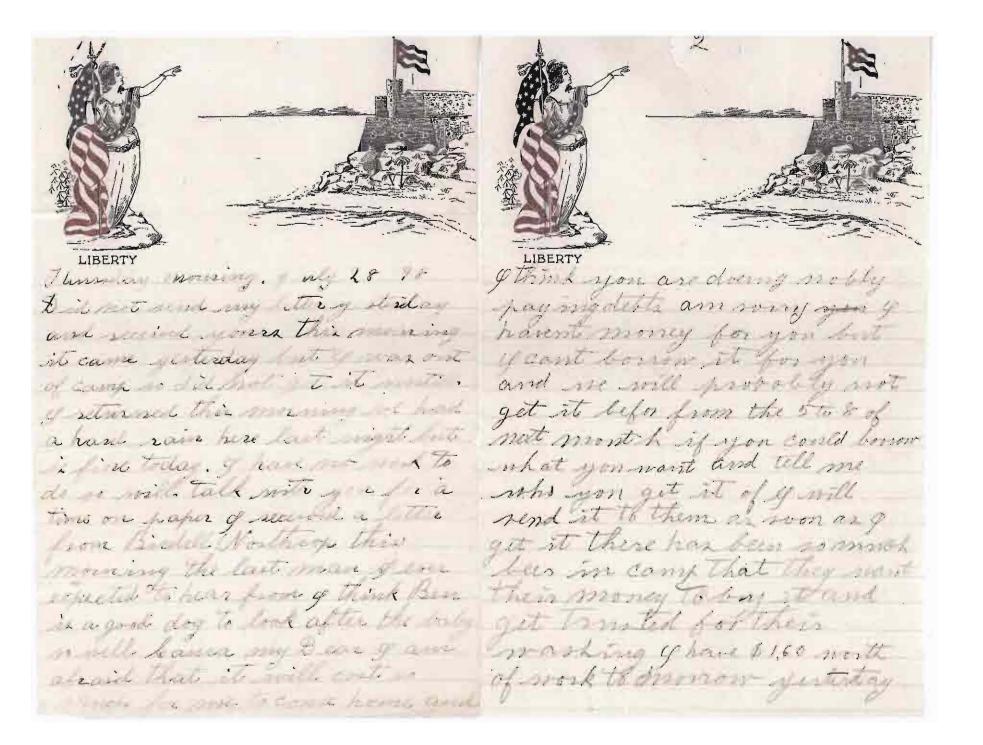
mer mo mobo brancos es some old here served them tog rla straw lic il rent as mice looking as your Amet Corrie is on her front room bed but i answers the same purpos is quite confortable side of surrel with rele , ma as the most a as they havent gitt to brild a brink there is on anne the most lime through the out of the losse tente which is quiet

of soon a you to u becoughly and say nothing we have enough to eat but it is not cooked at him bread is all right for the Timbe it is but is not home made bakes I am Muer way for men of want to see yoursey bad today had my minde fail made up to go home but my hopes are shattered mon as me Can only get a pass for 10 days. at the and would cost me about \$2300 the 8/1.62 4 was you about is for Furlow only and I greek nothing but officers get him a poor private has to spend all the money he gets for any thing thike that when ... officer get the same thing for holf the money well I will close this is a foor letter will

Camp Alger grilg 27/98 Dear Min + amily I have been looking for a letter from you for a more days expecting to hear you had gone to b. b. but havent need one yet so here goes, y am well and hope this finds you all the same the man growte you about came bock yesterday he says he got started for Minutto on his wheel and he had to go back and dident start again of expected to hear from home and by one was her have and look forward to his return and was greatly Disapointed when he told me he did not go up. there and presume you were just as much so. I am out an provo

greard duty about 2 miles from our comp am granding a lot of provision shacks filled with pris cakes cookers and all soits of strefy bout the as me us good as of haunt a cent of got trusted for a gen art of wilk this morning y ought not for to have done it but of wanted it so bad of Couldent help it some of the men owe the milk men as high as systpo .. Id told me this morning that he oned halfog his melt months pay Hay Atthouse says he ower 87.00 of his and gove \$ 05 cents of mine mules of can work and earn it before that line grent a letter to My ones this morning also one to rather and a price of minsic to Sorllie has biller yot the buttons it and do you like the books I send you if not

I wont send any more it is very hot we was y expections Ro Egiment will more down mearer to I mm boring soon out in Address will be the same as before 2 companies from our Batallion left yesterday morning one of them ment to ralle former and the other to the agrednet Brigge across the Polomas goeing into Mashington and the other two componer in the Botollion will do Provo grand duty mutill their return which will be in about 20 days. of green by the sound of the popers we will to be here much longer as I pain wants to serv for peace of hope she will of do something before long for I am sick of this Kind of life y can Come home and eat most anything



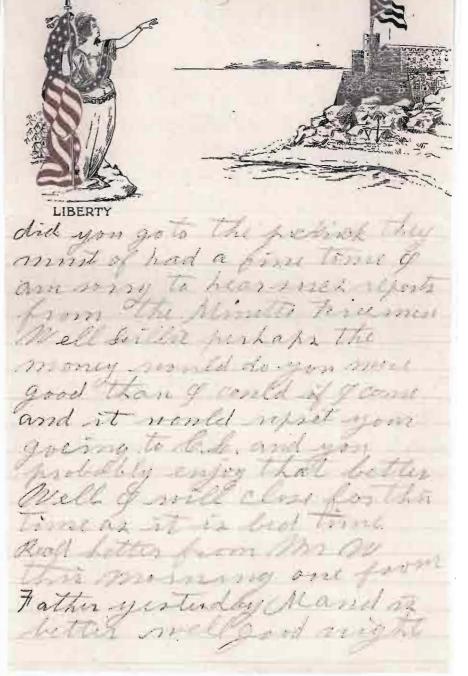
July 28, 1898 4 sheets

g made 13.65 but it is not or account of the unfection that ghad the chance but did not get a cent in money it no all trent was every thing in the locall right of hope mothing was broken me what you have to go hame with and g well send mooney to any one you say to pay the loan when ggit it fix it any many man like and let ince Room inhat you do Well de illie of can get you a fring greet best of hound the price of one mon I have a fine stamps and that is all of have got mon take Cost of the striff in The box for me except what was sett to other expensely and letters

you and the children Could an so result more enjoy went to the of the morny than your could of of Barne haine some of the mon war Il went cost doit about 9/128 me In and others say it will conti our 82 one and think of the good thing you could get to eater were with 120. " you could pay the Iman be see mike and have a little little you could stay at the hade at unich longer and enjoy yourselings of mer have sent curriany thin so you bar take there if you wish did you ever give her lite. Crock growing actual you to send her Wich of could see the Stowers Brist Morthey sest and a large transition leaf and a blooding nothe letter mich of had some of your comment of havest ten seen one this was get and g Contract of the contract of the Contract

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game way for to harlie hart he will come out all right on time but think Mars de mucht of weed him different when the was there and then he would put get as far good on her but it court be helped mon-Housel is done to me a march more Economic any thing he tried is go up these Ant Groke his wheel and had to go back and his time max so short he could not try stage you don't wish of could set the they any more than I do ? cant remagine how the world sort and act of y could are her but perhaps of will the



The rate sure may & the reporter than in how were but any with the special all Kinzes for your ale and. her between mon and and be grad to other showing but cart tell the Or site as of ten as you Warter 40 2 grape 2 2 page dece con and let me Know The Proceeding to the west words To a when you go to do be the way qualities well lade and reduce the array no it would cost the government mound he some and adolated to take cone of theme beside the war letters might men are getting very myang Frank Somme and want to go home it They are Camp Alger loa wet more de Good Thick is mit sont O. D. 3 N.C. O. G. a Bring at to rickey is corning you left the cod of 6 of home of donate Know he is not her The one of got loday and wante and level years The house if one of one mely hadent not but dont morry about me wien there when the mail y deal deal in that it will a Came of smit not got Hock as beels worrich for fews it will get to Mimitto and so it has if know a man who wrote to Larle Smith about him great and a feet they you had better they the whosees ving e This Mount of The clother of

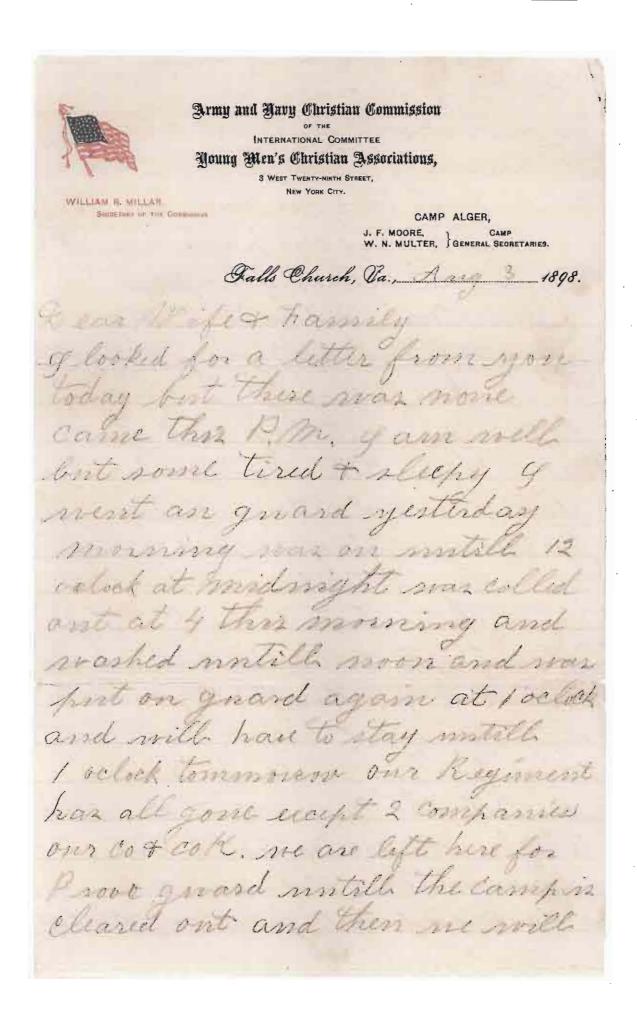
July 30, 1898

do it and do the right the trans Will and While to and mana must be an I be evined your melecost to up to and not get discuraged this morning was glad to asall will come out right & hear you were well hit in time as long as me are young the have in broken out all well and gamable to mitt heat poor little thing de cetra mock and earn anny how she must suffer the fregon to get what you mid not meather of am well and of only much of could earn more working when I have any beaute be a brave little more one thing to do but moch is not and bear the bresden you have very plenty as the men to bear and transt in the art like myself all but to It out for every their to come that payday will it here out right and next il defin

here before long so g will great a letter to you yesterte han lot of nork again morning you would have got it today if you very also some money for you hope you will have agent home billi you must not lime down there wish good cry for me if you can help be there with you but the it gam well and so are districted with du stee more you but you want be of you good and you ented so many surry or cry about me all to time dan all right and thing and of want you to get what you want. will probably be hours belie will grand the \$ 25 . so you long males something newgot of Charles to kim or to turns of that me Know you let me Know at one as motherny about the hord of think of will get my pay Known what is best and soon as g signed the pay if he think it is best for Rall this morning and vas to stay her here me will me got our last pay before stay and he will take core the Tol this month of med you cake him to help.

Camp. Alger Ang. I sar I amily a sent your a pack age of old as so will send them & you heave take out of them for me and when god home with look then has and prokape distance but a prosent set other again of a cone home and the Washington Japen say that 115 how troops are going to be mortined ent some time this month but meant depend much on what me read in them

of came in this morning off of know anard at reclock after 24 hours of duty and am mearly whiled today but have some work to do this of timon but don't Know how much 9 will do Well halle some hore you are having a big time drum there irdering arround 9 suppose you help do the million feed the figs & Chickens gother the eggs and lead the henre to watter would you rather live on a farm down there than live at home on our little place. with our little stock of Chickens and pige 9 had frightlen that me had any juga of seveler how they look of havent herd from Charlie since you left there but wrote to him genterday



go with the Rogament at Minarian of insection about 25 willes from here not will have to walk and corry our packs and grown and nations for 2 days best me are liable to be here to a week as to day of yet count Tell when me will go send your letters here writell yourd you more to send them somewhere else y received a letter from Hather yesterday mand is 20 she sets out to the table to eat with them but is not very strong yet 4 also received a Fill Edward order for Bisito to hay my fart home but no more furlows will be isned mitall the Houjement is settled together conserve her so it may be some time before 9 can Come don't cost your mail about

pour with you There things Army and Havy Christian Commission 🗡 🦠 INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE young Men's Christian Associations, no with my can some of 4 can come before of hear you are home of will court There don't tell arry one whise I got the proney to come with as it might make feelings between Olmers and Father of can hardly wait mutille the time comes to are to see you and my Deas I bildren perhaps you had better not say any thing about it but do as you like ne are getting rather poor foolder for the last few days gress the cooks are drinking to much bur as the streff is not half cooked what me do get of do lots of soork

in may to press trappy your 2000 is but don't get any morry as the men are all ant of money of havent had a cent in a long Time more Than enough to get fortage stamps with of will have to send the PQ order to Monetto as it is made for while There before 4 can get the more on it but me expect our kay every day now and if me get it I car keep the order motill Afcome and then goon get it coshed and not have o som any risk sesseling it of have a box all ready to send to Mara Whilson will send it as soon as Just off grand of have under clother glasses one pair of white duck pants for firm wills handkerchief 3 os 4 books and some atter stroff Skell my Dear 9 mil have to close and go and svalk my post again write when own cam

There with pack on Dear Wife + Children their backs just as they beed your welcome letter lef O sweep on the mills today & havent done much we come away it is about but lay arround all day 35 miles from here bound washed a little cleaned a my & ear don't say any thing & pair of passts that one of about my money it is the men was going to yours and of one you all if burn and was offered \$1,50 canget and more too it is a for them tonight and sold sice to have lots of money them and done 60 cents worth but of would not give one of reashing beside so ghove of our children for all the made pitty good mages today moreyof fine thing, is the grace to go an grand tomoron

for 24 hours it selms to be of sent 2 nice song book to my link to get greated duty billier and a package of they & meday of got 3 days books to you yesterday in succession this week and a bot of streft to the our Reg innert in all gone Wilson people yesterlay from her except to D+ R and with a little of everything ne will go as soon as one in it Received a letter trick of Prove groand is from Minerie this me done which will be in the in greing house to alay about another week or 10 andriles There will for the days Roay Althouse is more furlows iswed untill the Kegiment is The provid Father of a 3 2 settled somewhere together logish Rosekey will be discharged from the the camp they wanted A very on account of was conderned before the men got there and his disability to do disty Well of have first eat a they refeeled another quart of milk and 6 alson obort to miles fasther

Carren A lger A nignit . 8.98. Dear Land to allient to the I sent a letter to Lillia this afternoon and promised to rarile a longer one too nect time so swill consince it mour as y am lonesons. and haverate mothing she To do and y arrast de somethis of olone some work longht. frast de fore supper and get payed for it and spent .05 cente for anne milk for suffer and g had a feast too year business of break and a quart of milk it read the best supper 9 have had

Onesday Ang 9 Well my Dears here of an at it again of was leveked errough to get out of doling grand dety today don't know how it happy ened there is quite a little excitement around here today over are of the miggin soldiers shooting a werren yesterday and then he skiped out and a whole Regiment is looking for him and if he is found the chances are he will be shot at sight one of our men saw him but dident know what he had done and had no orders to stap him so he let him go another of our men shot at a 65 Miller Dramay of he caught him tealing green court of a farmers cour field he did not hit him but the man is in

ina long time of borrowed to cents to get some paper for Garrie and sent st yesterdo aville look for a letter from you tommonow and hope of will not be disaperated have you the books Mission and old letters the minerce & think in pretty good and something beillie com always play and will mever me ar out the man of wold the parts to has just been kell and mante me to bake theun. back again he had a men pair haved to keam Connect galloha france med legens forced only on me as the of near rand every one had to head them and gwill have To pay for their and they have

Ordered a new hat and theore over neget from the men we are treated we are good for you will have to milk them yourself but here me have to do the milking after they come and the officers take the cream that is from \$ 12000 to\$ 150,00 a mouth for Co officers and me poor privates get \$ 15.60, which you might dall the whey after there has been made of the skined milk Well our Dear your confudge by the sound of this letter about how of feel tonight we might have a good trul and enjoy ourselves if the officers was like the men but they have the authority and they like to sow it and they do it

the stockade amaileing a trial probably he will see a lot of pard labor before he sel out of it. We had a hard reis here yesterday ofter moon and cloudy looks as if it would rein again before moon but hope not as of have quite a lot of clother on the line and & want to get them dry and of my hands Mell my dimes is almost ready so graill adju for a while ree will get fired orrions potatoes roast. beef Bready coffee gaperet. more for amile this morning. had pulling & Milk for Breakfast (che meal finding) and il was good to Od Pravey to are going to send another but here soon of well read long thing that y & care posselly get alongwith as me go an a tromis strate de and I doub sould song anymuch

again and Favill have to get the clother me again as they will get net again Well here of an home ag ain just of the doing 24 hours of Roos grand duty the report this morning is that our Keg inent moores to Widdletown Person and that is pretty straight Resport that is quite a way from here and me svill have to go by train and is more home grant tell anything about what will become of me yet. there is lots of seports of out. of secriced a letter from Charlie this morning he was serry glad to hear from me and say he will be many year when & get bome though send the letter to you and you Grand to with it is to well frathers. with the rest of my ald letter

Well at whatter more and of haunt any thing to do but to talk with you on paper y looked for a letter from you Evolon but got left. 9 have been washing rome today but is a poorday to day them it. ranged about 2 oclock and all of had on the livre got rock and I had to take them all down and rised them all over again of hear Beickey 2012 house tomemorrow on her Discharge if I was to 30 home a moder the same Coremplances & should sound to go where no one Could are one that Knew one and of greeningle Growld never 20 to Minetto as it would always stick to one and expectally one who is as towny as he was

to section of the section The of made how sof money for the polar along remember, me to all and their your our have you are getting more with and let me promised what a latter has the driver need y would there and hay and frame found holder + my sh tes and com much parted and the morning they gave me were mich and tea for her supper were Last They gave now were any the first mar our had were of the war place the work self in the hours when we Just and the house were to me we a princt bound come craft the buryenes & von ner graf pout of pay me hours burnesses very vans much yet. Mill y house munch I provided and meet a most the 

Court A year Aug 15 - 15 Vear Hannely Weeised your Welesone letter Saturday and a preture of Olmers family and warmeles last nights the picture in not conserve good one of dont thouse Lama you look as af you mer meanly as old at Me. I amphelle in the pretaste of howerst sent the money of we havent been payed get and probably wont be before me reach Middle Town I even and of hear we start in the mounty but see don't Know any Thong about it a doldier stant represent to Known agent Kings

Thavent got my hay nel and don't know when quille get at some say are suit get it to me soon hope so as you afrond you will need some to met has your money all your web. 4 sent Amont 6 a package of paper and emulyes westerday finds out what sige of arets made O come means of non can and not let him what you want to keen for and send me the righ when you write. our company is reollered all ones the consitry get some of Them of havent seen in 2 much

Well derlie my work nottes is hot so garill close for thise Come give my love to all and exense this short letter will do better met ime ghave to go one on Prove great agam on the morning for 24 hours a month of the to mount this morning and amuned of lot an arretin the letter is in the sackage also a piece of manie for you and a pretire of a man by the marine of B. Lo, leyder Cal fine & He egiment of Illeronia he correr to sum and ggo to su him quite of ten but we can't make Int assy relation between mis Well good by King Baby and mama forme and umember me to all Hakades

and if me stay here much langer me mont Kream and how If he are the Money order pather gerati verse get don't Know which todo with it have been marking for one pay so I Could frage to all eighter of you don't sound. me to court hime will wait a few-days more and their of me dont get our money will send it to charles Well My Deans y had had my dimmer hard partituel milk and this mourning & had Milky hard tack fut of have spent my last cent again so will have to take what is given me or more The graff me are getting now is pretty rank the boffer in no good at all and some of the men are sick from drinking it

Middletown Pa. 10 Dear Family or has been some time dences I had from you ar you from me yam well but mearly lived out we broke compat. 4 oclock yesterday mouning Thursday) but lay arround. Camp mitell about 2.30 when me shouldered our packer and started for Dunlowing it was with hot and dusty we only got one halt and that a short one me were about an hour on the much a distance of 32 miles lots of the men. prit up a big others and ployed righ and wer corried to D. L. in

the bigest I shoot of it wines! for officers and when they get hold of any thing of that hind mo one but them get it they are the bryest lot of hogh collect men in the world and a private is mothing reless they have whiskey or morry and There they are good min as long as the whisky & money lasts and then they are dogs again Lama of there, was ever any thing in this world yam rick of it is this rolinder was brement as the way it is rome by the of precis they are making a fat thing out of it and are going to having on do it as long as they can Mel an graid me book e comp at & velock yesterday mouning and had some hard tack and sour telly for Breakfast and did not seit any thing more only

what we bought sentill 7,80 Lost night me gut some hard tack copper and rotter connect bed come are good got something they colled coffee and hard tack and there is some meter amount felling pier and the men are Anying them to Keep them alive of will say we have our pay and y will send it house as soon as g can get where y can I have \$ 5300 now but don't know but to hall to obliged to some of it to get something to eat yet of have managed to live so for but we are side tracked about a mile from the willage and are on the train yet me got here at one oclock last might and it is now elever and set are still hise

the Ambalance wagon and seven out of our company droped on the road Ast. Onemi. mas one of the ones that droped out and y moticed my Dear that the ones who started out of camp half drunk and abottle me their pocket were the ones that droped out thank the Lord 9 am fell from the clutches of solvekey and any one that has ever bin a Soldier and did not havethe apetite before they went into The army and got it of ter they fried med blame no one but their relier as they will have To make quite an fort to get it one man got a permit to 92 to Washington yestered ay morning and he brought bock about 5 gallens a markensenledge

We left Backington about miss. last might and did not stop modell we reached Battonige me were there about 15 minutes did not stop again untill me got to Book Pa when me were transferred to another road and got into Filsbury about 12 made a short stop there and then was vest on to Middleton and here mer are and a slow dryslemy ram is falling and me have a 2 mile march before no muless the report. extrace The report in that the Major went except the camp ground statulant for Mrs. list don't Know how land at is well golout think of any more more but herhale I can before I get a chance to gend this on I forget to said that the order to march was & countermanded and nevere brought by trains and me are on

When or how I will get this mailed or get a chance & sensel The money we can't trust any and to do it for me and there is no portal service here yet and I cant get out of camp because & am not maker enough. Me arein one of the firest places in the M.D. of Think me or on the bank on a short distance from the Smanchanna Renser and on the oposite side there are mountains cound with trus and it is the prettiest sight I wer saw the frelds arrowed in art as green as in spring nice farming anity and very fine brild ingh and preces of timber but ne are camped in an open field a large meadow of about 50 or 75 acres on it, we are me sight of the Rail Road in fact there are 3 different roads Run along the River. A hen are

you goeing home tell danie of have inquired about the package the sent me but could get me trace of it ask her if it was propherly addressed & was in hopes to get of as me have fored pretty dein for the last month and any thing beside son. bely would be a real to me. of have plenty of money but ne cant get any thing mules me pay truce it value and q want do that as long an g can possibly live with out it some the brien have spent all their money and are borrowing all They can but i wont level any more they get as anneh on gds and if they want to blow their money of laying forker a buying whiskey they will have to get along the best the

Duturday 10,30 Descores far well but mearly Alayed and by hard work and hat fire as & have been for back on The rooking mildel agour genad a war Rick but it made a bad matter worse by doing it the less me say here The better me get of the train gesterday about mon did not get and thing to eat unlike a which had mucht ofter leaving the training of more delasted to unload the bagage car and worked smittle 3 relick at hat when I reest to compand was just to getting something is not for the men and only one man to help me so you can make up worr mind of am about as near dead as & con to and nearly don't know

for I know you need all themone and an more than ancion to rend it to you but there is no possible Chance and there is lots of chances of haverny it stolen y don't slup for fear of lovering it so the somes go get ried of it the better I and like for there me a dozun after one every day to soreon it and y have to the tother and say of haveil got any sull ghave got to get to wat again at the dimmer good by Well here gam again for a few Minnette y ostere some in sicket way thing it and last one game. of The lifes sit have now comp established tenta preched and ready & lise again and now me How order to prelle everything up and more about to rodo to one order and turn one half orround anything to Kup a soldier on the formy all the Time and then the

and roll do any good a sicker, lot of men you heres now than The 3 set to exment NB 4 9 22 and there is but few men but would get out of possible but 9 lost think but not will, have to serve our 2 years refort see get out but I hope not but the Offreen are making a big Thing out of this and they dre goeing to hold it down has long as somethe Will my Door ones y green y will core this only and send it when god a Chance but can't tell when that will be biller I have another prese of meres for you did not cost any thing but The man is there first the a stock on hand now and you must be quite a good plager by this time hope you areall well and haveny a good time wish I could have a good time

Le a long truck before there will be any thought there will Os ficers have some one to some Acids from your as about as arround there is about 37 men sick out of our company some was get the for I havenst of them gone to the hospital The state of the s 16-may 1 16 7 2- 5/14 21-1 Company Cent a man about a week ago and he was burried the state of all a supporter at fost Theyer near Workingles anukage sell good by remember me to all assel another man from Co 9 12 1 a Level & Risser to was taken away in a heave resterday and it is reported Walter Building that a coplam and a Block Camp Meade. describerant in the first Batalion have smeethy Malalete Ran have been detached from me 1653 X 29 1/ (J.C. 4) when we lift barry Alger dend ditters to the will The other two Bolalions of ons He exercise mere at prisoner but they haved arrived here get 1 Cary 19 the men on The I company is of our Bala in are getting up an a polition to be immlered out. of the server but don't Know

Camp Meade A reg 22-98 From Wife & Children Monday Morning Breakfost our dishes washed and we and hope this find you all the same gracest time to write much but am covering to Harrisburg today can get my pass signed rend you what money of can will keep \$ 200 or myself of Know of an milk goes pretty go

on the your or was in ho to be some the money men in timber but it is instorer to get a furlow mow there an use many nick and me The Woshital and the Coston says there is no one to to my place a carking as the ran who done the cook ine here I more out is sick Thour hours arrance there as soon as you possibly can and Let rose Know it you but a mil have the order made pay ab Claywille as you cant it at the bake wood of heave to you william Remember me there will be some tall land toll me all whomit

Camp Made And 24, 98 Dear Sounce Soillies Ether of received 3 letters from you nesterday and one today and was good to hear from won once more a began to Etinsk non had your me and and may every to between contriety that & found it now mot your fourt our mark storm a terrible mich for source time and that hobs the reason gold not get gone letters. of received & letters yesterday and one from you today cand expect another

get them of 3 worked for it and let her go and see what she will do Swith it, I can't say when 4 can come home gashed the captain today and he said he could tell and thing about when he could so so beginne chrill say no most about it other have had furtions and stard over their time and mothing has bin done will Them and some have had & go to the grand house for from 15 to 20 days at hard lobor but as for as hard labor goes g get that mon as the cooking all rests on men shoulders now but the men por the grab is cooked the best since 4 have bin at the head of the cooking that they have had in the las 2 months but 4 shall get out as soon as y siverilly can as gelout

have as much time to wash when yam cooking as ydo when I am drilling President Ale Kinley is come in a to seview the Troops meet Soturday so ganthose in will all have to turnout and tramp for about 2 hours for him and when me get through he will say of how you under my Thishit and y greek y will keep you with I want your note and then. you can do the best you can as ghave no me for you now Well my Door it is out of The amestion for me to come and go home soith you wish you could come here on the exempsion but it would Cost so much it cost 86,00

tommorrow in answer to The money orders & sent you rope you had no touch getting the money on the such of could sont you more and could of sent Boo more but akept it to blen in but well sen a dollar to billie for a discholay present as there in mothering of can get for her here that q hank she reeds and she can get something to near or for school or any thing shelit or if she don't need any thing of the kind post it in the bank for she man need some thing when take can get the money Let her do as she liked with it if she wants to buy peaninte let her

to Men Gost and return but don't know what it would cost from there down here that is from Osnegor No 9 cont come monthe Officers think I they have been poore and they don't core for the me one man come book this morning and his for some of Dermelay moon but mothing has been. done soils him 2 moremen ment of away with leature was gone the days and one sight they are tree but it y should do any thing at the Kind of would shurtly get the grand house Major Hall is no better than the rest of have no Confidence in him any more this was is a political and money making schilm. for a few high muckety mneks and they are playing

especially 7 the officers of CoD. This country arround an Officer has just ordered the light post and so will have to do It as 4 mont have time to note any on the morning quill close so good by Kaschildren for onle remember and to all and lots of some to yourselos

their cords well of with you could come here and set the men eat and rehal they how to sat and there go and see the officers or slave drivers eat and what they have to eat they they sit at a table and have all kinds of humy and where do they get it they say they are playing & 500 a week by thirt bolard but it is not so the men are formed to est sow belly and hard took and the livery They should get as exchanged for something better for the man drivers of havenso. as nearl forced to honor them here but when gget go well a next row have

August 28, 1898

March Meade 1 mg 28 98 Dear Makent do hildren of havent received the litter & have bein looking for net and that is the one of sent the P. C. orders ans howest you got them yet if you have let me hear from you at once as of am fulling about them at in morning that costioner to received hand sweet to love so merch of at melly accent worch to vay but y and Somesome and tired have been on the jump son mores ? selved this mer ming and it 12 meanly 9 mens and of medica at that thirt excelling is not

array of you for a lawrence the two that ment home to day did not och do a further motell gesterday and q have been trying to get the low one of find the letter a man trye to do his distay the fearer facility There may be of com getter process home our touch any is all butter my there are structure sick likes is about 30 of CAN in the thought lat now some of them are many it and others are just prothings on so they can get a finder brone to 30 days as that is what were it there get I don't wanter hard hat I de mante Come borne lost dente mant ? trust tack had begain the will have to close us talle has in a and will proposed the light before The officer corner and orders at out the stand the william will be and the

mile in the morning Edder Bearing in quite net but please don't say any thong about it is has felke will know it as he built sweet better tomes at he as not on the Hospital of the Land Low - Decorat all was a considerable to the second Beile of the second of the second of the all they mant in their mounes hydred core any thing about The ence of to forgat to my 18 - there Evelore in the other and the water west broadlanker generallace him outly with Close so good by and let me have from you all River Lovery all and god bless you all Jerom your minerable collier pother House and 2 Cila Middletonas Pa Charge Mede Ca. S. J. Rey J. B. B. C. 9

this outlet the menhave to Lat inst the same as any Minday and as a gentrally me have to make an utraffert As is to get as good a classice of I will and then it is goo met a week we have to get. The most proportioned thing of have to say tonight in sendo something to lat there in one The men went home today the will come there has makere in Mills Randy and by live do La Fell from the med a or Received and he said he situaled bring send sense fiel cotes and a Charlete Cake A if you can and resort be to heavy for him to corner port babys hand in the topy the cook and y will to at when y get it is a gamento As as meas on a con set This

ymy? a try and finds out a Keep for me for of found it and in just what of want to trim tries with when of get home from the mas banca greant to tell your something about tod and do as you think best about telling his folks of herd today he was quite sick with a feeres he mas take to the division hospital the first of the neek and and the reports is he has fin sent to a Hospital in Philadelphia at of court say for Certain there was 3 more sent the hotelital today and another cover in the mo

And thing and mode puilt fine there was a man named I homa in our company and he died wisterday he was sent home had a retappe and died mad graceme hospital vesterda with a feever Well teillie of haven't herd from you in some time but suppose you are barries takeing core of to thet hope she is well by this time and hour does Ben like to have you back olver he come home or stoy with Malker Well of must cross and go a ted so good might and write room has through bin there get. Hemember me to all and tell mr Edwards of can beat hims one game for from money or marbles ? Well Kimes for your all tell Charlie of will miste to him some and evenue and his not

September 6, 1898

Carry Heads Sipt 6 1888 Dear mile + Hamily to exerced the bott tea yesterday many thanks for their and Received your letters to day from me well and hope This finds you the rainer Omas last of annay with a head acht but lam alignal mon gdint Know when a have fell any more encomaged than I have for the lost your days gamphon It is because of expect to are son all some incl in the course of another month lovery throng is pretty a home now and the muches Iga

There of there was gonould go and sel him but the cafton says there is not once & out if a should go array but he did let me go monday to Harrisalowy to get the town that honie in Caren soil stance to proon to pandle alone but Grandled at along and had to carry st 3 block an my look to get it is the street Car and Then I had to fort 30 Certs Eve have too it Charle my own confort from here return the Copie & Peacher ner all right and would have enjoyed them Derry mind but some one stole the heaches and all the cookies but & and, all the tried copes but. 3 the cok not all Right Cher dident town at Sout the ten is going brilly fast of am

towing to dielor my 3 of the when who are on their morten cooking something ettra and gonesile Them a love an mon The Do M. Knows y have trac and sest masks he asked me to port in a little extra for home and a did so told bon to help prinsell makes be got ready and hedid, and while of ment for some there man more there so of told him if he manted tea he had better bry a little and put in a little ectra force me had be harrent got it 3 with Well you wail have to LERBOR HER OFFICE RELEASE TE am to mean planed and to El not my reason late to might and 3 of have mobiler to Mars Reaver sumil close with love to all hope of care all own all soon for you soon and night Blek

out of this the better pale delegand grown totally core with the most of the 273632 Expressely took Privales Well of mill tell morall of Com about Ed. G. worth to his mouther all house home he is or Philadelphia doni Know how sick here but he well a very lead where he lett hise last it is reporte that the Soldiers get the best of cose and hortom Chara the mount that will monne Them there not one of Go 2 men hereth morning that come hom a tooftel there but & was not on the some on he may hedid not know Ed nor there at all and the no me chance from toge

analist and y expert y will be have some been put nech and granted the list there when & They so how have you but to one travel and their it would not missel my of hear one will have her bring might but down Breeze how true it is I have some mores don't will Kup it for a few days and if our don't get out of 1862 has Williamson and the till bed to gove -22 A Town I how was a little block Til P. M. and a west ment one mett at want that in the report doarra don't trut mark any clother untill I coul Then Tean help you as y muderstand me will get a goday purlow and then me soill have to restort back at large still at that time

# Envelopes

And

Discharge Papers

# Envelopes of letters sent to Laura

May 6, 1898	To: Mrs. B. L. Rider, Menitto, Oswego Co., N.Y. From: Hempstead 8:00am, 2 cent stamp Rec'd Menitto May ( )
May (), 1898	To: Mrs. Burton Rider, Menitto, Oswego Co., N.Y. From: Hempstead 8:00 (am/pm) Rec'd Menitto May 25, 4:00pm
June 6, 1898	To: Miss. Lillie Rider, Menitto, Oswego Co., N.Y. From: Washington D.C. 10:30am Rec'd Menitto June 7, 9:00am
June 8, 1898	To: Mrs. Burton L. Rider, Menitto, Oswego Co., N.Y. From: Washington D.C. 5:00pm, 2 cent stamp Rec'd Menitto June 9, 4:00pm
July 8, 1898	To: Mrs. B. L. Rider, Menitto, Oswego Co., N.Y. From: Washington D.C. 8:30pm Rec'd Menitto June (), 7:00am
July 18, 1898	To: Mrs. B. L. (torn envelope) From: Washington D.C. Rec'd Menitto July 19, 4:00pm
July 20, 1898	To: Mrs. B. L. Rider, Menitto, Oswego Co., N.Y. From: Washington D.C. 10:00pm Rec'd Menitto July 22, 9:00am
Aug. 4, 1898	To: Mrs. Burton L. Rider, Sanquoit, Onida Co., N.Y. Care E. E. Rider (Left bottom of envelope) From: Washington D.C. 9:00pm
Aug. 7, 1898	To: Mrs. Burton Rider, Cedar Lake, Herkermer Co., N.Y. From: Washington D.C. 8:00pm, 2 cent stamp (Other stamps: Binghamton Aug. 8, 6:30pm, Utica Aug. (), 12:30pm and Cedar Lake - no date)
Aug. 9, 1898	To: Miss Lillie Rider, Cedar Lake, Herkermer Co., N.Y. Care E.E. Rider (Left bottom of envelope) From: Washington D.C. 10:30pm, Forwarded to: Sanquoit Aug. 11, 10:00am, Utica Aug. 14, 12:30pm, Cedar Lake
Aug. 26, 1898	To: Mrs. Burton L. Rider, Sanquoit, Onida Co., N.Y. From: Middletown, Pa. 6:00pm Rec'd Sanquoit Aug. (2_)
Sept. 9, 1898	To: Mrs. Burton Rider, Menitto, Oswego Co., N.Y. From: Harrisburg, Pa. 8:00pm Rec'd Menitto Sept. 12, 9:00am

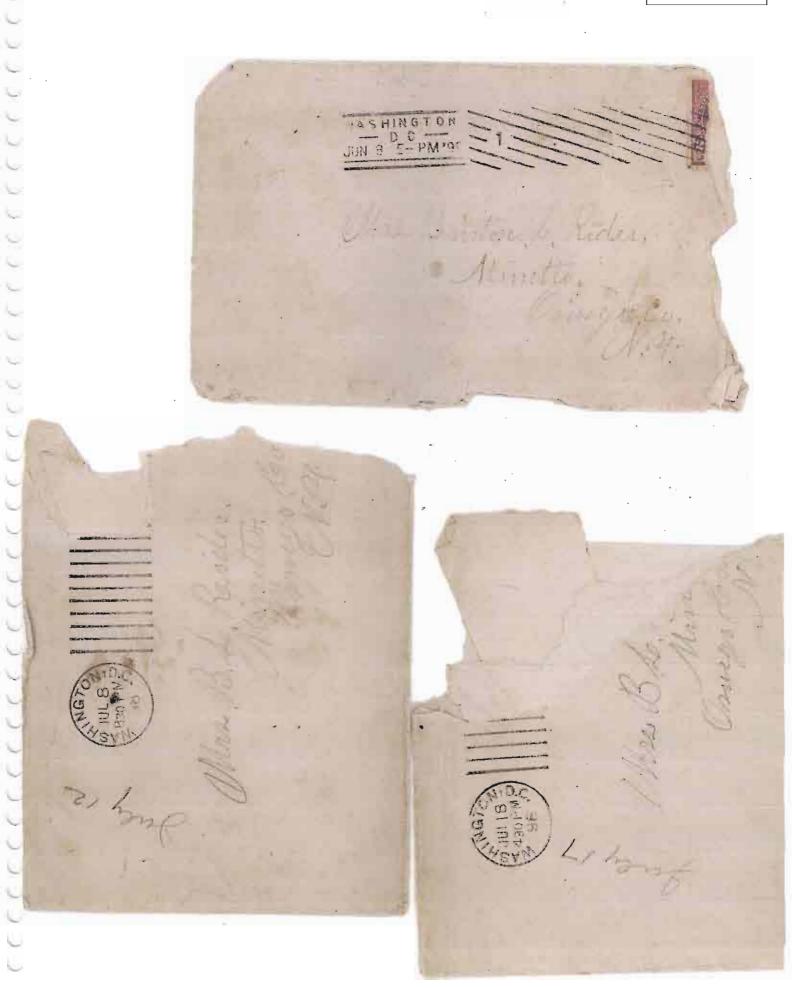
















New you

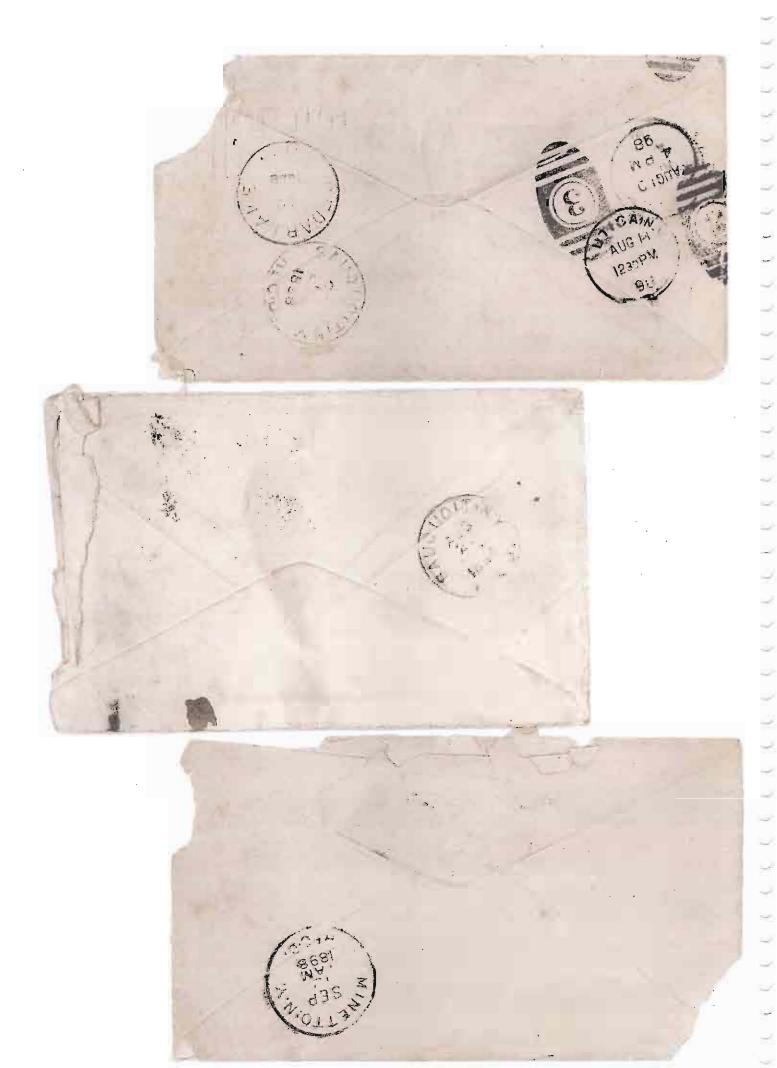


Envelopes sheet 4









### CERTIFICATE IN LIEU OF LOST OR DESTROYED

# DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE



To all Whom it May Concern:

Tryphy ye, That Decition I. Tides , a Trivatal
of Company of Third Regiment
New Goffe Infantry, Volunteers, who was enrolled
on the first day of Dray, one thousand eight
hundred and ninety-eight, at Oswego, New Gork,
to serve two years, was Honorably Discharged
from the service of the United States on the first day of December,
one thousand eight hundred and sinety-eight, by reason of
muster out of the comprany.
This Certificate is given under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved July 1, 1902,
"to authorize the Secretary of War to furnish certificates in lieu of lost or destroyed discharges," to
honorably discharged officers or enlisted men or their widows, upon evidence that the original discharge
certificate has been lost or destroyed, and upon the condition imposed by said Act that this certificate
"shall not be accepted as a voucher for the payment of any claim against the United States for pay,
bounty, or other allowances, or as evidence in any other case."
Given at the War Bepartment, Washington, D. C., this fifteenth day of
December, one thousand nine hundred and Shirty
By authority of the Secretary of War:
eg unriving in the secretary in war:
Thykragan
W.D., A. G. O. Form No. 0150-2
CAC September 24, 1920 / CAC September 75-250 September 7

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101 and examined	State Oswego (Touth, 886	
took S.M., in book No.  D at page d examined.  Colored Mark,  Olark,	State of New York,	

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# State of New York:

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Trow De, that 10 Burlon L. Rider
a . Private , of . 48 Separate Company,
N. W.T., N. y., enlisted on the of ifteenthe day of the brunes
one thousand = Eight hundred ninety eight, to serve on five years
years, having complied with the Moditary Code and the Regulations of this State,
is hereby, under the provisions of such Moilitary Code and Regulations,
HONORABLY DISCHARGED
and relieved from further service in the Military and Naval Forces of the State,
except in the case of INSURRECTION or INVASION; and exempt forever from JURY
DUTY.
Given, under my hand at on Osinego N. Y. this on twenty sixth
day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and
othree
(6) AMfall.
(6) AMAGU. (7) Trancis D. Commanding (10) 3 <sup>22</sup> Battalion.
(12) Captain Commanding 48 5cp. Go

NOTE.—(1) Name of soldier in (ul); (2) grado; (3) signal corps, company, battellor, troop, battellor, repiment; (4) G. [National Guard] or M. [Naval Mültla]; (6) date; (8) period; (7) place of headquarters; (8) signature of buttellor, repimental or brigade-ommander; (9) grade; (10) organization; (11) signature; (12) commanding officer of signal corps, troop, battery or company; captain or lieutonant commanding, and organization.

Letters

from Laura

to Burt

### Letters from Laura Rider to Burt

(By the text, we believe it was written on July 13 as it was a Wednesday and he answered her questions in his July 17 letter)

#### Dear Burt

- Wednesday night. I Feel like having a talk with you tonight. How I would like to have you here so we would see your face. I am quite tired tonight. This morning I ironed and this afternoon I have been sewing. Finished my new calico wrapper. Monday when I went to the city I spent more money for myself. Think I have about all I need now. I am so thankful too for some good things to wear. You are very good to work so hard to give us pleasure. I got one finished for a shirt-waist and a skirt to
- (2) go with it, two new aprons and baby a white dress and a calico one. Mabel Banks gave her a calico also and I have just made her a new one. Shall make her new night dresses and she will have to have a bonnet. Then I guess she will be all ready for C.L. There are so many things to get and make if I go. Charlie says if I don't go some where he will. He is very down hearted again over everything. The belts are lovely. I have wondered what kind of a belt to get to go with my satin shirt-waist and now you sent me just the thing. The buttons are pretty with it too. How is your
- (3) face? I have worried lots about it. Am so sorry is it poison ivy? I haven't been to get the post office order cashed yet. How nice it seems to have money to pay up our debts. If you (sure) like some, it would not all get to me. I am thinking shall pay about a month ahead on the loan and pay Charlie the rest. Think I'll finish up his debt soon then what shall I pay? There is five dollars coming from (the cow) yet that will pay the cow pasture. Do the band need the money you owe them here? I don't know
- (4) much about the band only that Frank D. and John are put out of it. Labor Day the Factory picnic is at Maple Bay. Mary C. wrote to me today. Says to come any time. The whooping cough is there but I can find places to stay where it is not. (Elte) was home when she wrote Uncle Edd is not well has heart disease. Lorn has (ser) man. She is helping him. Think we will go to Oswego tomorrow and will send your revolver by express and have our picture taken. I don't seem to have anything to send you. If you think of something let me know. Baby's spoon came today. I don't know what to
- (5) take to Carrie. Our pictures well be nice and you're how nicely they are finished. Wish you could have seen baby. She put out her little hands for it and said Papa, Papa and kissed it two or three times. Last night she did the same again when she saw it on the desk. I can't think she remembers and still it looks like it. I went to missionary meeting with Mrs. Rappleye last night. Took Ethel and you should have heard them praise her. She did act so cunning all the eve had her little arms up over

- (6) her head and run. We were at Lizzie Burts and she put her arm around Sam and laid her little curly head down on his and they said if they only could have her picture like that. Hope her picture will be good. Guess we can't take Ben. Charlie says he thinks the factory will shut down next week. He will stay here and keep (Bachelors) hall. Think he looks forward to having a great time without us. He wants one of your pictures for Miss Crouch. He said T. Hickney was much pleased with his. Guess I'll take the rest and give them to C.L. folks. Yours taken here take the cake (Up side) though. I like it better than any you ever had.
- (Top of page 1 sideways) I feel so glad that I did not take help from Page now.

  Of course I may have to yet but wouldn't it make you feel better when you get home to feel that you took care of us instead of getting help of them?

  Any way they were good to offer and I can get it any time I ask for it.
- (Top of page 1 upside down left) Write and tell us how you are. I don't see how you write so many letters.
- (Top of page 2 and down side) Guess I'll have to go to bed with the children.

  Don't work over hot fire. () wash to get your blood heated until your face is better for doctor too.
- (Top of page 3 sideways) Lillie has finished her letter and says she is going to bed. You better send me money instead of Lillie until our debts are paid. I am so anxious to help you do this with the money you work so hard for.
- (Top of page 4 upside down and down right side) When you come home it will be so nice to have the little debts paid up. Don't you think so?
- (Right side of page 4) good night I do want to see you so much. All say they think war is about over. Yours lovingly, Lottie.
- (Top of page 5 sideways) Baby has gone to bed with her rag baby. She had been in the boat and bothering me and Mrs. Karboth when they were playing croquet. Charlie makes quite a little of her.

### First part of letter missing

(Probably written July 14 as he asks about his watch in his July 12 letter and answered her question in his July 17 letter)

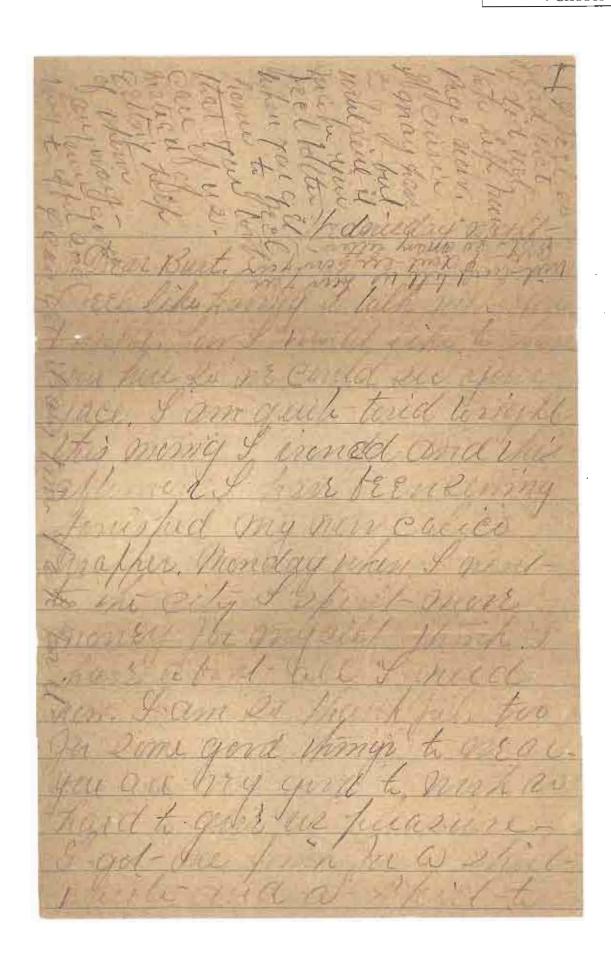
We have had quite a lot of blackcaps out of the garden and Charlie picked a dish of red raspberries. I bought some of Mrs. (Jemie) today to can. Have had peas out of the garden. Charlie has the garden looking beautiful. Think we'll call on Mrs. Brooks tomorrow. (Kirye) think lots of Ethel too. Mrs. Hechny was here the other day. Sent her love to you. Fred Warren is home. He has a yellow mustache and is another Fred Symonds right over. I got your watch at Mersdens. I could have kissed it because it just came from you and it looked so natural. I hear Alec R. is Corporal. Nice for him. I feel sorry for you, hope you will get with the band right away. I hate to have any one

(Up side) find fault with your cooking.

#### OTHER SIDE OF PAGE

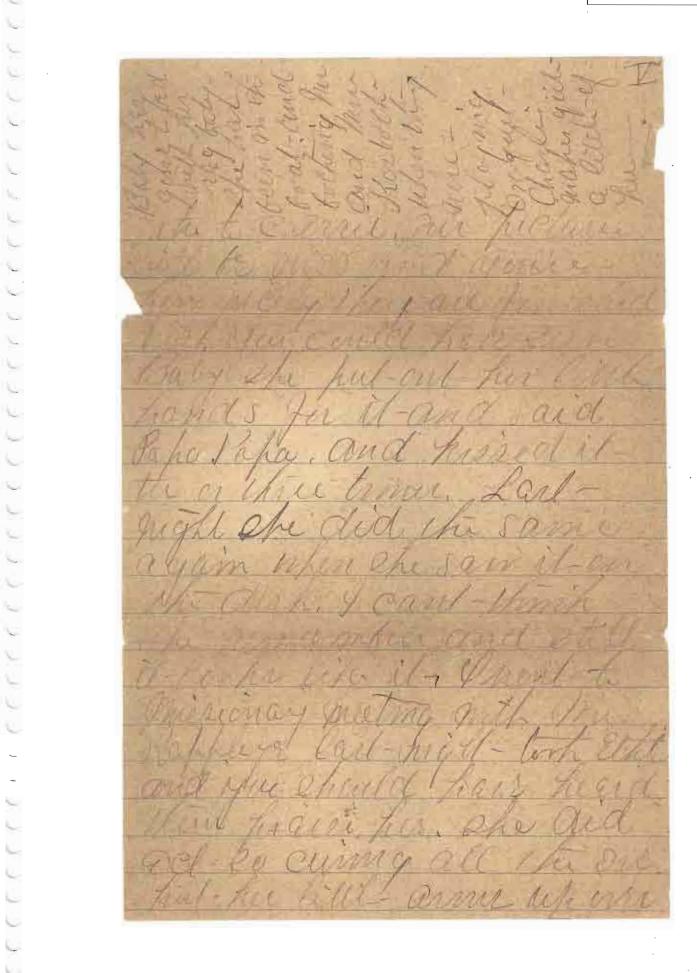
- (Lillie's letter, center in pencil) and bothered if his father went away. Perhaps he wouldn't care but I do. Well it is about 9 o'clock so guess I will close. Good bye from Lillie. Be sure and come home as soon as you can. L.G.R.
- (Top of page sideways) Mr. (Jemie) says their berries will not yield half if it does not rain. It is also very warm though and the nights are cool. Have you your new suits yet? Good night again. L
- (Bottom of page sideways) Everyone asks about you, even Mr. Beothert. He peddles vegetables. Did I tell you Nat Parker had a boy? Sorry you didn't find Will in W. B. Mead is working for Mr. Edwards all the time. Mr. & Mrs. Shepherd wagon broke down the other day and they have both girls badly hurt. Do you have new potatoes? We have had some once bought them. The () look good in the garden.
- (Center, right side of page) We need rain badly. The well is about dry and the cistern has been pumped.
- (Middle of letter upside down) It seemed like Christmas when I came home Monday night and found all these things here from you. Charlie handed me one at a time. Would never stop coming (thank you). Bye dear for all.

Italics in brackets are a guess at the word. Empty brackets indicate we're unable to decipher the word



ELL a fell to CA mon line & toro the fullow

104-9



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SUMMER 35 Burton L. Sider

The funeral of Burton L. Rider, 50 West Eighth street, Oswego, was held from the home of his wother, Elmer Rider, Sauquoit, N. . Wednesday afternoon at 3 clock. The Rev. Albert G. Judd of flion, former paster of First. ed. The large gathering of relalves and friends and the profusion of beautiful floral tributes gave avilence of the esteem and regard in which Mr. Rider was held. A unit of Spanish War Veterans from Otica held their ritualistic service of the grave in Cedar Lake cemotery and a firing aquad and bugler fired the final volley and sounded

The hearers were Glen Lloyd, Arthur Jones, Albert Kennedy, Frank Bennett, Milton Light and George

Halligan,

# Burton L. Rider

The Utica Observer Dispatch of Sunday carries the following relative to the death of Burton L. Rider, 150 West Eightn street, who died from injuries received by falling from a barn at Chadwicks Thursday last:

"Accidental death in the verdict given by Dr. Gordon A. Hoiden, Litica coroner, in the fatal injuries suffered by Burton L. Ryder, 73 following an examination yes-

terday afternoon,

Mr. Ryder died yesterday fore-noon, June 8, 1935, in Faxton hos-pital, Utica, as a result of a fractured skull and crushed chest, suffered in a 12-foot fall from the scaffold while reroofing the barn on the farm of his brother, Eimer, two miles from this village, on the Roberts road.

The accident occurred Thursday and the man was removed to the nospital in critical condition with little hope held for his recovery. He was attended by Dr. E. M.

Griffth of this village.

Burton L. Ryder was born in the town of Litchfield, May 3, 1862, son of William and Carolyn Slade Ryder, where he passed his boy-hood. He attended the schools of hood. that township. Later for several years he worked as a farmer and for the past 30 years he followed the occupation of carpenter.

Forty years ago Mr. Ryder moved to Oswego, where he had since resided. At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war he enlisted and served in the United States Army until the end of the

conflict.

He married Lottle Goodier of Litchfield, July 22, 1885, who survives with a daughter, Mrs. Harry Underwood, of Los Angeles, Calif.: three brothers, Elmer and Fred, Sauquoit, and Leon, of Iowa, be-sides six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

# RITETON L. RIDSON BADLY INJURED

Hurt In Fail From Barn Near Utica Thursday.

CHADWICKS. June 7 .- Falling 12 feet from a scaffolding on a barn which he was re-roofing, Burton L Rider, 72, 150 West Eighth street, Oswego, is in a critical condition in Faxton Hospital, Utica,

He is suffering from a fractured skull and a crushed chest

The mishap took place Thursday morning on the farm of his brother, Elmer E. Rider, located on the Roberts road, about two miles from this village.

The W. H. Fisk ambulance was called and the man was taken to the hospital.

Mr. Rider, who is a carpenter by occupation, left Oswego one week ago for Chadwicks to assist his brother in roofing the barn. He had just started work when the accident happened Mrs. Rider left Thursday afternoon for Chadwicks.

Mr. Rider is a Spanish War veteran, serving with the 48th Separate Company.

plot at St. Peter's cemetery. Burton L. Rider

Burton L. Rider, 72, of 150 West Eighth street, died early Saturday morning in Faxion hospital, Utica, from injurier received in falling from a scaffolding while making repairs to the roof of a barn at Chadwicks, N. Y., Thursday morning. He suffered a fracture of the skull and crusped chest. Mr Rider was born at Cedar Lake, N. Y., and was a carpenter by trade. He came to Oswego nearly 40 years ago and was a member of First Methodist church and of the Carpenters' Union. He was a veteran of the Spanish American War, having served with the 48th Separate Company. The death of Mr. Rider will be sincerely regretted by his many frinds in Oswego, among whom he was highly esteemed. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Lottie Rider, one daughter, Mrs. Harry Underwood, of Los Angeles, Calif., six grandchildren and two great grandchildren and three brothers, Fred and Elmer Rider of Nedoway, wicks and Leon Rider of Nodoway,

Funeral and buriel will be held Wednesday at 2 c'clock at Cedar Lake, N. T.

WHITE—Entered into rest at Strong
Memorial bosnital, Rochester, Sopt.
10 1921. Ethel C. Rider, wife of
Warren W. White of Fittsford, N.
Y. and daughter of Mr. and Mrs.
Burton C. Rider 150 West Eighth
street, Orwego, ged 21 years.
Functal Tuesda Fept. 22, 81 2 B.
w from the bon of Mr. and Mrs.
W. Ernest White 15 Lincoln Ave.,
Pittsfore

Mrs. Warren W. White

Oswego friends will grieve at the death of Mrs. Ethel C. Rider Whit i daugnter of Mr. and Mrs. Burta, Rider of Oswego, and wife o Warren W. White of Pittsford, N. Y, near Rochester. She passed away at Strong Memorial hospital, Rochester, Saturday morning, Her parents were called to her bedside Thursday.

Mrs. White was 34 years old, and resided and was educated in Oswego. She graduated from the Oswego High school and the Oswego State Normal and Training school. Practicing her profession as a teacher she was connected with the schools of Pittaford for some years. She met and married Mr. White there.

Surviving Mrs. White, who was very highly regarded because of her many graces and kindly disposition, are her husband, a son, Allen Lester, six months old; her parents and one sister, Mrs. Harry Underwood, Los Angeles, Calif., also several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services are to be held Tuesday, September 22, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Ernest White, 15 Lincoln avenue, Pittsford.

### W. H. McCray, 78, Dies; Retired Contractor

William H. McCray, 78, of 223 Sixth street S.E., retired building contractor, died Monday night in the Washington Sanitarium, Takoma Park, Md., after an illness of several months.

Mr. McCray had long been prominent in the Masonic fraternity. He was a member and past master of King David Lodge, F. A. A. M.; a past high priest of Hiram Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; past master of Washington Council, Royal and Select Masters, and past communder of the Washington Commandery, Knights Templar. He also was a member of Almas Temple of the Shrine, a past president of the Convention of Anginted High Priests and of the Masonic Veterans' Association of the District of Columbia. He was a member of the Association of Oldest Inhabitants of the District.

A native of Chenango County, N. Y., Mr. McCray came to Wash-ington in 1889 and engaged in the building contracting business. He retired in 1939.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Jessie Henjamin McCray, and a daughter, Mrs. Harriet McCray Dick-

Funeral services will be held at 8 p.m. today in Gawler's chapel, 1750 Pennsylvania avenue N.W. Knights Tempiar services will be held. Burial will be at Cortland, N. Y., at 2 p.m. Friday.

Grandma Rider