

No 19

No. 1.

Headquarters 9th Regt N^o 1st Vol.
(Opposite Fredericksburg) Va Jan 1st 1863

Dear Friends

It is a clear & cold morning
the coldest we have seen not unlike many
that I have seen in VT except it may
be a slight difference in the temperature
with you as we have no snow here
I wish I might be with you that I
might greet you with a happy
New Year, but as it is all obliged
to do it with pen and ink
I sincerely hope it finds you all in
good health and spirits and I think
I have a very correct idea of you all this
morning) But with me I dare say
you can not even if I tell you that
I am sitting ^(Turk fashion) in my little log house
my back supported by the wall and in
front is a good warm fire place with

a barrel for a chimney and we have
a fancy carpet too made of oat sacks
(same as salt) and if it were not ~~begin~~
backing our wood for half a mile or
more we should consider ourselves very
comfortable The boys think it is rather
tough going out to drill this morning
and I dont wonder for some are almost
barefoot and without gloves I have not
been out to do any duty for the past
three days on account of the worst
cold that I have had for a long
time I never had just such a cold
before at first I had a bad cough
which has left me with a soar throat
and I have not spoken a loud word
for the past 3 days But I feel better
and it is not as tight this morning
I have not been to the Dr as I am acquainted
with the Steward of Shepard and he is
doing everything that can be done
and more than I could get of the Dr
as they do not out Sirup of Squills to

the man although there are some
in my Co who are in as much need
of it as I am it is the best thing
that I have taken there as a great
many at the present time sick
with colds

We have a mail every night ~~but~~ I
have not received a word from Home
since the Battle of Fredericksburg
I wrote you immediately after and a
few days after to Mark but have
not heard from either as yet
and am getting rather impatient
and I fear too that you have not
got either and are in anxious
suspense as to my safety
I wrote a short time before the Battle
about some things being sent in
a box I have not heard from that
yet I wish I knew that you had
sent it as the Boxes were all sent
from Washington Aquia Creek a few
days ago and our Quartermaster has

gone ~~to~~ day to bring to the
Regt and the boys are in high glee
and will have a good time when they
come I assure you

I cannot write much war news as
I see you have it all in the N^o papers.
The Rebels are more strongly portepied
than and we never can drive them
from their position except by a flank
movement and I have my doubts about
that. Burnside's letter to the President
has won him many friends among the
troops who were engaged in the Battle.
The state of things at W-ton creates no little
excitement. The query now is what is to
be done with us poor soldiers. There is one
thing sure we cant go ahead except down
to the River Bank which we have to do
once a week as outside picket we have
fired as does the Rebels on the other side
but it is rather cold work to stand for 24
Hours. Your Stages with Staff is in W-ton as
are the Com^o leaving Nagle in Command
I believe I wrote you that Sprague was
Commissary. He is now acting Brigade
Commissary. In my letter to W I wrote
in regard to am change of Officers the are
one or two other vacancies whether I shal
have a little chance or not I cannot tell
Our Capt Haugh says I shal I can only
hope for the best. How ar at the Boys that
went from W I am glad they are having such
an easy time but I cant say that I wish I
was with them where is Jim Galliber
you did not tell me when Stephen
was teaching. Please remember me to all
enquiring friends and write soon
A. C. W.
I shal expect sm^t brother Chad W W
side. W I and wish you
to yours chas W W
hereafter