

10 Jan 61
Near Fredericksburg Va.
1861
No number my letter with you would
do the same. you can list if we receive
all our letters with your number.

Dear Friends:

I have this morn-
ing just received your letter
of Jan 26th I was glad to hear you
were so well. I had got all out of
stamps & those came very opportunely
You see by this we have not
moved at all we are still in our
old camp. The first we heard
of our moving was from the
papers we learned by those that
we had certainly crossed the
river had had a battle & Gen.
Hooker was severely wounded
Our Col. & Major as they started off
on a ride on being asked where
they were going said "going to see
where Hooker was wounded".
We have got so we don't believe

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No. 1

Near Fredericksburg, Vir Jan 31 1863

Dear Friends:

I have this morning just received letter of Jan 26 I was glad to hear you were so well. I had got all out of stamps & and those came very opportunely You see by this we have not moved at all we are still in our old camp. The first we heard of our moving was from the papers we learned by those that we had certainly cross the river had had a battle & Gen Hooker was severely wounded Our Col & Major as they started off on a ride on being asked where they were going said "going to where Hooker was wounded." We have got so we don't believe

After long that kind of some. I believe
and will be the best hunting when the war
half we hear you will find that
more false than true rumors get
into the papers about the army.

Least Tuesday we had a severe rain
storm lasting all Tuesday night
Wednesday morning it began
to snow it snowed all Wednesday
& Wednesday night We were on
picket from Wednesday till Thursday
noon we were in the deep ravines
near the river. We had no tents
& nothing but green wood, which
had to be dugged quite a distance
to burn the snow fell to the depth
of 8 or 10 inches & drifted into
drifts of 2 & 3 feet. I assure you it
looked wintery to see the country all
covered with snow. We thought it
wintery to be out in the open air 24
hours with no covering whatever
It was a terrible night for us but
I managed to keep full as comfortable
as most of them my rubber blanket

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half we hear you will find that more false than true rumors get into the papers.

Last Tuesday we had a severe rain storm lasting all Tuesday night Wednesday morning it began to snow It snowed all Wednesday & Wednesday night We were on picket from Wednesday till Thursday noon we were in the deep ravines near the river. We had no tents & nothing but green wood, which had to be lugged quite a distance to burn the snow fell to the depth of 8 or 10 inches & drifted into drifts of 2 & 3 feet. I assure you it looked wintery to see the country all covered with snow. We thought it wintery to be out in the open air 24 hours with no covering whatever I t was a terrible night for us but I managed to keep full as comfortable as most of them my rubber blanket

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and Havelock was worth dollars to me that night. It was too bad for those who had no rubber blankets they got wet through & then their clothes froze on them but we got warmed up going to camp had to wallow through one foot of snow & from 6 to 18 inches of mud underneath But this is nothing more than I expected when I joined the army those who complained when we were fareing quite well are rather disheartened now The snow is all or nearly gone & the weather is quite warm to-day it reminds of Maple Sugar time. The rainy season has fairly begun here & I suppose winter in NE now it rains two thirds the time Appearance all point to a long stop here now & winter quarters. They are building a bakery

we shall have some soft bread
soon. Alden has not got his box yet
we are waiting anxiously for it the
contents of mine have disappeared
long ago. The boxes are at Aquia Creek
& have been for a long time there is
so much red tape about our army matters
soldiers have to suffer in consequence
I wish Ben Geigel was in command
of this army then I think we could
do something I learn Hooker is in
command I am afraid he will
do no better than Burnside. I send
you the most injured sheet of that
letter paper. need not send me any
more tea we draw now. Has Ed.
Kendall got my letter? It appears you
had great rain storms when we did
Mary I am sorry your throat continues
to trouble you mine has got interely
well my voice is much clearer
than it ever was before You will
not grow ~~your~~ trouble I have received
a letter from Josephine she will send the
money to you soon. Darned the young
folks have such a good time skating this
winter. I wish you had time to go skating
instead of running that old machine all the
time I shall send you some money as soon
as we are paid off I shall want you to send
me a box soon or about a month

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so we shall have some soft bread soon. Alden has not got his box yet we are waiting anxiously for it the contents of mine have disappeared long ago. The boxes are at [Aguia?] & have been for a long time there is so much red tape about our army matters soldiers have to suffer in consequence I wish Gen Seigel was in command of this army then I think we could do something I learn Hooker is in command I am afraid he will do no better than Burnside I send you the most injured sheet of that letter paper. Need not send me anymore tea we draw now. Has Ed Kendall got my letter? It appears you had great rain storms when we did Mary I am sorry your throat continues to trouble you mine has got entirely well my voice is much clearer than it ever was better You will out grow your trouble I have received a letter from Josephine she will send the money to you soon. I am glad the young folks have such a good time skating this winter I wish you had time to go skating instead of running that old machine all the time I shall send you some money as soon as we are paid off I shall want you to send me a box soon in about a month

I wrote to James for him to send his along. I don't want you to send until they get to come through quicker than they now do What has Father done with that land Wis I think Father had better buy that land of Dow. Real estate will be the best property after the war

Feb. 1st they see I have commenced to number my letters. I wish you do the same so we can tell if we received all our letters Write soon from your Brother

WJT