

Send a few stamps

Near Fredericksburg Jan 17<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Friends at Home:

I closed very  
hastily a letter to Barnes yesterday  
supposing that ere this we should  
be on the march and our Camp  
would present the appearances  
of those deserted around us viz  
piles of rods, holes dug in ground  
& the plates of cedar boughs show  
where the suffering Soldiers have  
spent many a cold night.

But the expected order to  
march did not come we  
are still here, ~~the~~ with orders to  
keep 3 days rations cooked & on  
hand all the time. But thanks  
to my kind friends at Home  
I am independent of Uncle Sam  
this time. You won't catch me to

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Near Fredericksburg Jan 17<sup>th</sup>, 1863

Dear Friends at Home:

I closed very hastily a letter to James yesterday supposing that [?] this we should be on the march and our Camp would present the appearances of those deserted round us, viz, piles of sods, holes dug in ground & the place of cedar boughs show where the suffering soldiers had spent many a cold night. But the expected order to march did not come we are still here with orders to keep 3 days rations cooked & on hand all the time. But thanks to my kind friends at Home I am independent of Uncle Sam this time. You wont catch me to

put any hand to it in my hav-  
ersack if we march soon.

Our big box of supplies arrived  
in safety to our camp yesterday  
about two o'clock just at the  
minute orders were received  
to be ready to march with  
3 days rations early this  
morning. We all felt sorry  
that we must march so soon  
& give & throw away so much  
that was so good from home  
But I have made 3 good meals  
out of it & given away a lot  
so I with those in our tent  
can carry it with <sup>us</sup> if we march  
at any time. I thought yesterday  
was very glad there was no more  
but to-day I would not care if  
there was another loaf of brown  
bread. I have got a little brown  
bread for my supper that brown  
bread was delicious it moulded

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put any hard tact in my haversack if we march soon.

Our big box of supplies arrived in safety to our Camp yesterday about two o'clock just at the minute orders were received to be ready to march with 3 days rations early this morning We all felt sorry that we must march so soon & give and through away so much that was so good from home. But I have made 3 good meals out of it & given away a lot so I with those in our tent can carry it with us if we march at any time. I thought yesterday was very glad there was no more but to-day I would not care if there was another loaf of brown bread. I have a little brown bread for my supper that brown bread was delicious it moulded

slightly but did not hurt it any  
The wheat bread was complete

The mince pie tip top

The apple pies a little mouldy  
but eatable. The cakes, butter & cheese  
more best I have eaten this side  
of N.H. Ginots, sugar, tea cinnamon  
paper dipper will all come in use  
I sold 50 cts worth of dried  
apple I guess I can manage  
the rest I wish you had not  
sent quite so much but perhaps  
we shan't go far - we may stay  
here a week longer - The sausage  
will be tip-top to carry on the  
march that stuffed meat was  
certainly luscious Our meat  
out here is very poor in quality  
The country is so barren the cattle  
about starve before they are killed  
Mather if you took the pleasure  
in putting up those <sup>things</sup> did in  
eating them you enjoyed your-

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sleightly but did not hurt it any. The wheat bread was complete. The mince pies tip top. The apple pies a little mouldy but eatable. The cakes butter & cheese were best I have eaten this side of N.H. Tomato, sugar, tea cinnamon paper dipper will all come in use. I sold 50 cts worth of dried apple I guess I can manage the rest I wish you hadn't sent quite so much But perhaps we shan't go so far – we may stay here a week longer -- The sausages will be tip top to carry on the march That stuffed meat was certainly luscious. Our meat out here is very poor in quality The county is so barren that cattle about starve before they are killed Mother, if you took the pleasure in putting up those things I did in eating them you enjoyed yourself

new years day. Was sorry you sent  
the shirt I gave it to a woman  
who has sold me a good many  
things to eat I have but several  
qts of milk of her & other good  
things hard to get. Don't send  
me any thing in the shape of  
clothing unless I send for it  
I don't want you to send any  
thing in any other persons box  
again send a box for me when  
I write for one. Do you hear  
from Mr. Clark?

I watched the  
old year out on picket ~~run~~  
down on the bank of the  
river. but the mail goes  
now  
write soon

W. J. Ruppel  
The things got a little wet but  
not so hurt for it rained in  
Berrents night before last

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new years day. Was sorry you sent the shirt I gave it to a woman who sold me a great many things to eat I have bot several qts of milk of her & other good things hard to get. Don't send me anything in the shape of clothing unless I send for it I don't want you to send any thing in other persons box again send a box for me when I write for one. Do you hear from Mr. Clapp.

I watched the old year out on picket down on the bank of the river. But the mail goes now.

Write soon.

WJ Templeton

The things got a little wet but not to hurt for it rained in torrents night before last.