

Wheat  
Near Fredericksburg Vir. Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Brother:

I sent you a letter which I closed very hurriedly last Friday afternoon expecting that that we should march the next morning. We did not march & have not struck our tents as yet & the appearances are that we shan't because we can't for some time. I had a chance to eat all my stuff from home & should like another box to begin on now. I gave away more than I should of ~~if~~ had not been under marching orders, but I guess shall get some of it back again. They sent me from home some nice brown bread, wheat bread, apple pies mince pies sausages, dried apple molasses white sugar rice butter cheese and cakes sweet cakes & a piece of fresh pork stuffed all of which came in good shape except the apple pies those were mouldy the box came through in 15 days. There are lots of boxes at Aquia Creek which they will not let come through I expect now they will come in a few days as we are to-day beginning to draw camp rations <sup>fresh but</sup> potatoes, &c for the last week we have not drawn much except pork & hard tack, pork I won't eat much of when that is our only fodder. I manage to get some indian meal potatoes, onions, flour or something of that sort

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I sent you a letter which I closed very hurriedly last Friday afternoon expecting then that we should march the next morning. We did not march & have not struck our tents as yet & the appearances are that we shan't because we can't for some time. I had a chance to eat all my stuff from home & should like another box to begin on now. I gave away more than I should if we had not been under marching orders, but I guess shall get some if it back again. They sent me from home some nice brown bread, wheat bread, apple pies mince pies sausages dried apple molasses white sugar nice butter cheese seed cakes sweet cakes & a piece fresh pork stuffed all of which came in good shape except the apple pies those were mouldy the box came through in 15 days. There are lots of boxes at Acquire Creek which they will not let come through I expect now they will come in a few days as we are to-day beginning to draw camp rations potatoes fresh beef &c for the last week we have not drawn much except pork & hard tack, pork I won't eat much off when that is our only fodder. I manage to get some indian meal potatoes, onions flour or something of that sort

but it frequently happens money won't buy any  
thing & then we come down on to hard fact that <sup>we</sup> ~~we~~ <sup>must</sup> ~~we~~  
have to eat up as soon as possible or it will crawl away  
Government is not short of transportation I'll assure  
you. But I am growing fleshy on our fare after  
all. I guess our Post occupants ~~have~~ <sup>have</sup> lived as  
as any in the Co. & with the least expense I found  
a chance to change pork & coffee of which we have  
an abundance for indian meal sometimes a little  
milk or molasses, at a house about a mile from camp  
Friday I received a letter from home saying they were  
all well & that they had received a letter from you  
saying you intended to send me a letter box  
soon if you send me write when you start & accept  
of what is sent. I don't need any more paper or  
envelopes. Please send me some salamis in the box  
If you put in any pies don't put any paper around them  
mince pies is the only ones I should wish. I think a great  
deal of the brown bread wheat bread but it is rather  
rigid sending any thing but what will keep months  
I think however bees started now will come right  
strong if you send fruit send that which with but  
the longest some white sugar would be acceptable  
as anything butter I think is as profitable to send  
as anything of that kind. Dried lobster in a can sealed up  
would be nice & would think brown or Graham bread would  
keep a good while. now send me whatever you think best  
if it comes on the eve of a march there is always boys  
enough who will take it and return me something for it

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but it frequently happens money won't buy every thing & then we come down on to hard tact that some of it we have to eat up as soon as possible or it will crawl away Government is not short of transportation I'll assure you. But I am growing fleshy on our fare after all. I guess our tract [indecipherable] as any in the Co. & with the least expense I found a chance to change pork & coffee of which we have an abundance for indian meal sometimes a little milk or molasses, at a house about a mile from camp

Friday I received a letter from home saying they were all well & that they had received a letter from you saying you intended to send me a letter box soon if you send me write when you start & a complete list of what is in it. I don't need any more paper or envelopes, please send me some [saluratis?] in the box If you put any pies don't put any paper around them mince pies is the only ones I should risk. I think a great deal of the brown bread wheat bread but it is rather risky sending any thing but what will keep months I think however boxes started now will come right throug, if you send fruit send that which will keep the longest some white sugar would be as acceptable as anything butter I think is as profitable to send as anything of that kind. Some lobster in a can sealed up would be nice & should think brown or graham bread would keep a good while, now send me whatever you think best if it comes on the eave of a march there is always boys enough who will take it and return me something for it