

## THE SERGEANT JEROME PEIRCE COLLECTION

LETTER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	254
DATE OF LETTER	Dec. 29, 1904
WRITTEN BY	Chas. F. Smith
WRITTEN TO	Allie
WRITTEN AT	Boston, Mass.
NUMBER OF PAGES	3
TRANSCRIBER	Ben Raterman
TRANSCRIPTION DATE	Dec. 24, 2018

### ENVELOPE



### LETTER TRANSCRIPTION

Boston, Dec 29, 1904

Dear Mrs. Pierce,

My wife showed me your letter received about the time of Belle's marriage and I fear that in the hurry and bustle she has omitted writing to you and so I will try my hand at writing.

Your letter called up some sad as well as pleasant memories of the old days. I was sorry to learn that some of the old friends left your letters unanswered as though they had forgotten you or had grown out of the old memories. I shall never forget what a snug and happy home you and Jerome had in the place leading from Elm Street in Charlestown (the name I have forgotten). It must be nearly 50 years ago. How time flies! How proud and contented Jerome was. He was a rare man and it seems a strange providence he should lay down his life as he did. Well we little know what is before us. You certainly deserve great credit and the approval and sympathy of your friends in the fight you have made to sustain yourself and daughter.

I wish you would make us a visit and call on some of the people you used to know.

Mrs. Wyman and Miss Phipps live in the small block with us on Beacon St., Brookline and Miss Nancy Fosdick and her sister live opposite and Mrs. A.E. Cutter lives not far away. I think all these people will be glad to see you.

My large family is dwindling in size. Only two daughters and one son now at home.

I occasionally see Mr. Drew and learn of you and Lucy.

He tells me his only daughter is married and gone to Chicago to live.

[Paragraph] I know what a vacancy it leaves when a daughter leaves the home circle even when there are more daughters remaining. Mr. and Mrs. Drew must feel lonely enough.

I have had it on my mind to write you for some time and I have seized the opportunity today.

I wish you a happy new year and hope to see you at the house before long.

Yours truly,

Chas. F. Smith

#### **TRANSCRIBER'S NOTE** (Josef Rokus)

A subsequent letter in this collection from C. F. Smith, from Boston, dated May 25, 1905, and also addressed to Mrs. Peirce was written on business stationery of the Commonwealth Trust Co., Boston. On the letterhead, C. F. Smith is listed as the treasurer of that company. The closing reads, "Yours very truly, Chas. F. Smith"

The last letter in this collection is also from Chas. F. Smith to Allie. It is dated Feb. 6, 1908, and it was written from Brookline, Massachusetts.

Charles F. Smith was a long-time family friend who knew Jerome Peirce before Jerome enlisted on August 4, 1862. Smith also sent a letter pertaining to the time Jerome and he were friends as youngsters that was read at the funeral service in Orange, Massachusetts, in June 1864.

It is interesting to note that Allie's name is incorrectly spelled Albenia instead of Albinia.