

THE SERGEANT JEROME PEIRCE COLLECTION

LETTER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	195
DATE OF LETTER	February 13, 1864
WRITTEN BY	Jerome
WRITTEN TO	Allie
WRITTEN AT	Erin's Station, E. Tenn.
NUMBER OF PAGES	4
TRANSCRIBER	Josef Rokus
TRANSCRIPTION DATE	August 4, 2018

ENVELOPE



LETTER TRANSCRIPTION

Erin's Station E. Tenn 13 Feb 1864

My dearest Wife,

Have just been into Co B street and Ben says, "Capt. Ames is going home. Don't you want to send your wife some pattern of a new dress you have had lately?" And I thought I would at least write something in hopes that it might get mailed quicker and reach home earlier perhaps. Capt. A is quite unwell and needs a furlough and I hope he may find better health by his trip. Expects to leave tomorrow.

First let me tell you how glad it seemed to receive yours [your letter] of 31st Jan with Abbie's etc. but there are letters now behind, the one of the Sunday before. Have been waiting impatiently. Possibly a mail may come today but a poor prospect now. It must be other letters are due. I have not yet received anything from Alonzo and Ellen while the officers of the Regt. have their cards.

The principle [principal] events of the past week are a turn at picket duty (Monday and Tues.) and a visit to Knoxville on a 'Pass' with Ben who pointed out the scene of the late conflict taking a careful look at the ground particularly where our Regt. was stationed.

The location of K [Knoxville] is very picturesque and some of the views about are most beautiful but everything is torn and defaced by the effects of the siege and presence of the army. Streets dirty and repulsive, food scarce, everything enormously high. Hospitals, sick and wounded on every hand. Went into the Christian Mission where papers and tracts are free, also writing materials etc. but gov. [government] furnish but little transportation, and so it is imperfect at present.

Have had a quiet time in camp and do little but think of you at home. Go through the regular drills. Call on and chat with Ben and then to sleep, etc. I am quite wakeful nights and then my thoughts wander away.

The weather of late has been cold and so we keep up good camp fires until the woods are quite thinned out, giving the chilly mountain airs free scope.

But of home. Suppose Hattie is gone. I have indeed thought much of them! And how each one will be missed as the[y] go forth with the chosen one, but now you will look for another mission as from time to time you hear from them. And I trust all may be well, health, happiness, pure etc. and sweet. I would I could have been there on both occasions. Saw the marriage of A [Alonzo] and Ellen in a paper at Knoxville. A pleasant occasion with both Drs. E and Hale. Suppose I shall hear all about it soon.

Have had letters from Mr. Murray and sister Heald. Will send you the letter with Mr Edmund's address. Ben says he wishes you might get up a correspondence. Mrs E is very busy with teaching and wishes on that account you would begin. No doubt you too. Could claim as much, but I wish you would write.

We didn't seem to get started yet for the North but expect to soon. I see Burnside has been in and about Boston. I hope everybody had a chance to see him. He takes four of the new Regts in his expedition, the one Ed Brown is in among them I believe.

I am afflicted just now with a boil on the back of my neck which tires me to write very much. I want to send a line to the Boston friends so you must pardon this hasty affair and let Sarah's letter help out. I will write Mr. Sulloway soon. Thank you for the little extracts you sent and will treasure them. Also Abbie for her letter and Wordsworthesins. Surprised that Dr. H is at C. [Charlestown?] What a depot for a Dr.! No doubt his place will be well filled.

Should Capt. A be detained will add more tomorrow. Have to prepare for dress parade etc. Hope to be more interesting some future time. Hope also to hear from Will and Hattie soon but the mails are working irregular. Have to be patient. I keep forgetting if I number letters and gave it up. I write once a week either Sat or Sund invariably. Capt. S's somewhere on his way to the Regt.

Wrote to Carry the other day in Parson Brownlories [???] wagon.

Love to all.

Ever your own,
Jerome

TRANSCRIBER'S NOTE

Capt. T. Edward Ames, from Charlestown, Massachusetts, enlisted at age 24 as a First Lieutenant in the 34th Massachusetts Volunteers. He was promoted to First Lieutenant on August 12, 1862. He was then transferred to Company B of the 36th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment on August 22, 1862. Ames was promoted to Captain on August 2, 1863, and commanded Co. F of the 36th Massachusetts before serving in a number of staff positions for the balance of the War. He was mustered out with the

regiment on June 8, 1865, and he was promoted to the rank of Brevet Major for “gallant and meritorious conduct before Petersburg, Virginia, April 2, 1865.”