

THE SERGEANT JEROME PEIRCE COLLECTION

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| LETTER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER | 60A |
| DATE OF LETTER | Jan. 18, 1863 |
| WRITTEN BY | Jerome |
| WRITTEN TO | Allie and Lulu |
| WRITTEN AT | Camp at Falmouth, Va. |
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ENVELOPE



LETTER TRANSCRIPTION

Letter No. 1

Sunday P.M. 18th Jan ~~1862~~ 1863 [See Note]

My dear ones,

The uncertainty of war still finds us by a comfortable fire in our tents, when we expected to have *moved* ere this. The weather is cool again, and today "orders to march" we[re] again Countermanded, which we are glad of, for being exposed, on marches, would decimate our ranks faster than battle. I wrote you on Thurs to [?], (one letter) expecting to march on[?][—]and now I send a few lines. Am on guard duty today—have to post a guard every two hours near by passing the intermediate time in our tent. Have done little but, think and read yesterday's paper. We have a sunny, beautiful day but Cool, and how much I wish I could be at church once more with you in old Mass! But what avails it. I can only do the next best thing—as we have no service - and it would still be "the next best thing."

Yesterday was out with a party a mile - good from Camp, chopping some wood for the Co. so we have cut away the *forests* since we came here! Father would think it wicked to see us burning the splendid *White Oak* woods which would [be] so good for *timber*.

Did you have snow this time at the North? We imagined you must have had. Had a letter from Orange-- Sir- I got home safe, but fatigued of course. Said they had heard from you and expected a long visit from you and Lulu in the Spring! So are we always looking into the future, but hope you will indeed do so, and in a way to enjoy it, but uncertainty and fear rules the hours? till this wicked war ends. I see Gen Foster is again at work against Wilmington N.C.

By the way *Henry Boyden* is with us again[.] Came on Fri. Is well and glad enough to get to the Regt. Mr Stevens is now really ill, at Alexan^a had a fever, and is quite feeble, but getting along slowly. thinks he will not get to the Regt. Guess he don't wish to, and we all feel so, even the Capt. Would have a job if he had not been sick, working on barracks, jobbing[?] &c being a Carpenter. Had another letter from Henry [?] Fri Eve[.] Answered it yesterday, telling them of our still remaining here.

Hope to hear from you *tonight* and that you have my picture by Foster. Also whether you have recd. all *the money I have sent from here* \$9.00 & Lulu's *box*, neither of which you have told me yet. I have just bought a nice lot of *Stationary*, so you need not send any for the present. Shall write Frank very soon. Did you get the *letters* by Foster? Also Mr. *Bowen's* letter and Photograph? Will mail this in the morning. Eve, past 8 o'clock. Mail in, & your letter of the 14th Am glad you got my letters so promptly—guess the inquiries at Washington about mail *detentions* are doing some good. I appreciate your *feelings* in regard to *help* from *friends*. I shall not feel troubled about being *indebted* to them *after this*. I have received your letters—money[?] 25[?] also stamps. Yes I know I sent you stamps in my last and understand your feelings in regard to *money* only I am trying to keep *out of temptation* and get along with as little as possible. I think you will get the things, picture & letter in time[.] Foster carried a letter from *Martha* in his packet till the next morning after he got here. I had good chance to get some stationary—quite *reasonable*, so you can keep yours for the present. Have a *quoir* [sic] and bunch of good Envelopes also pens.

It is getting late. shall be interrupted by guard duty thro' the night: so must close. Got a letter from Ed Haynes—quite happy & well, but same old *style*.

Monday morn-- Bright & fine—thought I would add a word. Heard from Alonzo R this morn. He is very sick of *Typhoid* Fever at *Georgetown*, which will prostrate him for awhile.

Have got thro' guard duty and have just got up some wood. Don't move yet. Co Commenced drilling again this morn. Had some *onions potatoes*, & Salt beef this morn and it relished well. Can send a pair of socks when you get ready—no hurry. The boys are all well from – A. J. H. weighs 161. I have not been weighed for a long time.

Shall write Frank today. Most dinner time, and think I shall have no news. you must see the papers for the rest.

Mr. *Heath* is here from Charlestown. Have not spoken with him. He was carrying a *gun* for one of the men Coming from Picket.

Adieu

Jerome P

P.S. Alonzo's mother was with him. Don't remember your speaking of receiving the money. *All right*, perhaps I did not get *the* letter.

Will number this letter No. 1. Jan 18th

Never mind the book "*Hyperion*" am afraid it would not get here, as I have expected once, but has not come yet and Capt. S. is *abler* to get one than you are to send it. Love always from *Jerome*

TRANSCRIBER'S NOTE

The original date on this letter was 18th Jan 1862. The year cannot be correct since Jerome did not enlist until August of 1862. Based on other research, this letter was definitely written on Jan. 18, 1863, instead of on Jan. 18, 1862. It has, therefore, been reassigned the Letter No. 60A to fall into the proper time sequence.