

Camp Tennallytown near Washington City D.C. January 3rd 1862

Dear Ma & Pa

With pleasure to me I take my pen in hand to inform you that I received your kind and always welcome letter dated Dec 29th and I assure you I was glad to hear that you was in the enjoyment of good health as this leaves me at present thank God

Dear Ma I will not write you a long letter for I have no news to tell you of oneley I passed a verry good Christmas and New Year all though I am in the Tented Field serrounded by my companions in armes and Fighting for a Cause which I think just and Holy For as our Fow Fathers framed the Constitution headed by such men as George Washington & Thomas Jefferson so let it be the laws must and shall be obeyed As yet we have had no engagement with the Enemy but yesterday we received orders to have Two Days rations cooked and be prepared for a march and up to this time the order has not been countermanded but I do not think we will march and if we do we will not be in the Battle for we are the Secind Reserve Dear Ma your kind and allways welcome letter will cheer me in to do my duty not onley to my Country (which God Knows I love) but to those I have left behind me You state you are glad that I have the good will of my Companys Ma I will speak candect and I hope sencible I have the good will of every man Officers and all in my Company there is nothing that lays in their power but they would do for me but ho have I to thank for it but my Parance God Bless them You speak of John Hall looking so bad I am sarry it is so for John has shode a Brotherly feeling towards me and to repay him for it I have arranged things so that he can draw in every ^(month) \$15.00 of my pay commencing in Murch the thing is so arranged that let me be taken Prisoner (But God grant I may never be for I would not ~~be~~ at one than to be a Prisoner in the hands of the men we are fighting agant) he can draw this money We will git Two Months pay in cors of a week or so - Then I will try and come home and iff eny

can get a Perbough I can Moa to tell you how much I am beloved
in the Company. Although I did not hear it until to day the
Boys collected \$24.00 last pay day and then they laid it over to this
Pay to make me a present of a Gold Watch what think you of
that Moa you can trace through the annals of history and you will
find nothing like that. And Moa should not I ought to feel
proud of it Moa although I am a little higher than a private
but still I do not consider my self better than one but Moa ^{why} ~~why~~ could
the Chickens before they are hatched

Give my love to All my Brothers and Sisters Tell them I wish them
all well I wrote a letter to Thomas but wether he received it or not
I can not say you can look for me about 3 or 4 weeks to see you if
nothing happens to detain me so rest assured I will take care of my
self until then So thanking you for wishing me a happy New Years
and hoping this will find you all in the enjoyment of good health
as this leaves me at present I will bid you Good night and God
Bless you all

Yet I remain your Son
To my Mother Clarissa Allen
William P. Allen
Camp Tennallytown Jan 2^d 1862

Dear Sister Ann Louise

I take my pen in hand to inform you that I am well and hope
these few lines will find you the same I will try and be home
on the 8th of February if I can. Although the Weather is a little cold
out here we are so well taken care of we do not feel it I was to the
City of Washington the other day and went all through the Capital
which I will tell you of as soon as I see you in person

Hoping you had a Pleasant day on New Years and wishing you
a happy New Years If it is not to late and Sending love to
You Pa & Ma Edmund Thomas Henry Clarra and little Johnny
I will bid you good night as it is 12 O'clock and after my
hard days work I will close Oh I for got to tell you that
one of the Boys received a hose and I helped him to eat a Chicken
the first I have tasted since I left New York Set as ever
Answers this direct as before
W. Allen