

New York, 185

Camp Tennallytown near Washington D. C Jan 16th 1862

Dear Ma & Pa

With pleasure to me I take my pen in hand in answer to your kind and allways welcome letter dated on the 11th when I assure you it gave me pleasure to learn through your letter that you all were in the enjoyment of good health as thanks to an all wise providence this leaves me at present - You state that you are pleased to hear that I am comfortable situated this cold weather Dear Ma as for cold weather I hardly know what it is for there has been no cold weather as yet out where I am onely Two or Three days and as we are comfortable situated we having good Tents and Stoves in them we hardly know what cold weather is

Dear Ma I have got nothing new to tell you of onely I expect to be home in a little while providing there is no advance in the Army around the City of Washington but if there is an advance before I receive a Furlough I hope an all wise providence will guide me in doing my duty to my ingored Country which God knows I love as I do my Parrance and if I am to lose my life in the defence of my Country I am satisfied for I believe a man can not die in a better or a holysse cause

Give my love to Thomas please tell him I received his letter which I will answer as soon as I can tell him I have answered all his letters but the last one which was Three I directed them as he told me to and it is verry strange if he did not get them I receive the News Papers most every day so I can read what is going on around me I do not think there will be an advance in some time of the Army under General McClellan but when there is one rest assured nothing will stop him from carrying his planes in execution We will be paid off in a verry short time then for a Galley day amunkes the Boys of our Regement. As for me I hardly care wether some of the Men in our Regement gets any money or not I will tell you the reason of this insted of sending there money home to there folkes they spend it for Rum which all Pa I never touch

in no way shape or manner it pains me to see men make hogs of them-
selves by getting drunk and God knows I have seen anuff of it since
I have been in the army We spent a verry nice New Years in Camp
every thing passing off well with out any accident - the Dog was one of the
Beautifuller I ever witnessed. You say it pains you to see so much Suffer-
ance in the opinion of People in regards to this Rebellion You say they are
all most all in favor of the South in the place were you live.

Dear M^r I do not believe there is a man living in this once prosperous
Country can make me believe the Southern People did wright in Firing
on and almost starved handfull of men in Charlston Harbor and
there traying the Emblem of Liberty in the dust - which has gave Succes
to men from every clime almost on the face of Gods earth and there is
no argument - strong enuf in my estimation can be brought in there favor
but will brand that act as unyoman cruell and cowardly tis true
there is men will argue that the South has been imposed upon by
Men of John Browns stripe but was not he condoned by most every man
in the Northern States but M^r I hope they that are exposing Abro-
ham ^{Lincolns} ~~Lincolns~~ administration will have the vale fooled off of the eyes
for I can not see any thing rong with him - as a ruler for I believe him
to be one of the Best men the Country can produce you must excuse
the blot on this paper for I have no good place to write -
hoping this will do for an answer to your letter and hoping it
will find you in the Enjoyment of good health as it leaves
me I will close by sending my best wishes and regards to all
of you - Yet I remain your Son

Wm P Allen

P. S. I thank you for the Two sheets of Paper
that you sent me

Write soon

Direct - as before to me
So Good night