

Head Quarters Va Regt,
Camp Buena Vista, Jan 1st 1847.

My Dear Parents;

This morning presents itself, as the first day of a new year. Many are the troubles and trials to be expected, before it shall be drawn to a close, no one can imagine to himself, the many changes that will take place, before it shall have passed away. This day twelve months ago, I enjoyed the pleasure of your own fire side, amidst many friends and acquaintances who in the short space of twelve months, I have by some means been driven hither. Almost in another world I amidst another race of beings, every thing has changed, and I see nothing as I then saw it. Then if it be possible so short a time can make so great a change what is it we may not expect to occur, before another twelve months shall have passed away. Then shall I indulge in the sweet hope, of the two great nations being able to accomplish a peace, and in the course of a short time, all of us be able to return to our homes again. How shall we expect to be found, at the beginning of another year, in this unfortunate country, with this same dark and gloomy prospect before us. Tho' enough of this I for war I to continue this strain of imaginations. There is no telling, when I ~~shall~~ stop, or what would be the result of my happiness. Tho' let us hope for better things let us hope the terror of war, will soon be no more, and many who are here now seeking lawless in Mexico, be able to accomplish their design, and be able to return to their homes and friends.

You will please excuse me for not offering you earlier my
thanks for your last very kind and interesting letter
as it was mailed as good tidings from afar off, & I am
truly sorry I have nothing to send you of equal value
You speak of my asking for an ~~an~~ office, in the Reg-
ular Army, in my letter to Seneca, And the effort you
have made in my behalf, I shall ever be under obligat-
ion to you for your continued kindness, tho I hope
you will not go to any unnecessary trouble for me, as you
have all ready done more than I should ask, my object
in making that application, was to better my situation in
the Army, and that should I be compelled to remain here that
I might receive something for my services, as well as to
enjoy some of the pleasure of a military Campaign with
the officers have so much advantage over non comd officers
You speak as my chance would be better in the 40th Regt
tho if you understand the situation I am placed in here
you will find I cannot be promoted unless I again
return to rank, as I do not belong to any company, and
the officers are compelled to be elected from the com-
pany. Consequently, I cannot be elected in a company
unless I return to rank. And as I now hold the highest
non comd office, in the Staff, I cannot be promoted by my
present field officers, I would be pleased to hold a comd
for many reasons, which you have seen stated in my first letter
tho I am willing to await consequence, and abide the fate
It is no use for me to dwell upon this war, as it would only prove
tiresome to us both, no one here can tell what the result
will be, and we are destined to await congress, and see
the result, as that is our only hope of a speedy peace
write soon, a friend John P. Brooker

My Dear Sister

As paper is scarce, as well as meat, I'll take the liberty of dropping you a line on a half sheet. And here except many thanks for your very interesting letter, as it is all I have to send you from this detestable place. As they have been no battles as yet fought or laurels won, you cannot expect much from me, in relation to my insignificant self, in Mexico. Christmas has passed, and a new year has made its appearance, I have passed many Christmases, tho' now like this, the day makes no difference here. My time has been closely engaged in winding up the business of the regiment for the old year as it all appears to fall under my notice, as to the post I hold, I have frequently thought of you all at home, and a Christmas day did not wish ^{a little} myself with you, to have the pleasure of participating with you in a Christmas dinner, Ma. States in her letter (you had just finished) killing a fine lot of hogs. Can you not send me a few menses of savages, you speak much about my returning home in many of my former letters I had hoped by this time to be with you, tho' it appears all hope have been blighted, and no one can tell when we shall be relieved the Mexicans it appears will never yield to justice and our only hope of a speedy termination of the war is in the Congress of the United States. You will please excuse this hasty scrawl, as I have nothing to tell you of importance, write soon and give me all the

news. why don't Kate, not send me that letter
 she promised me. how does Sally look since
 she is married, as well as Mr. Shaffer, why don't
 Mat Brown write often, also Col. Sprinlee
 who are they married since you wrote last
 how does Jake Maury come on, what has for
 heavens sake become of old Sanford Proter

BRAZOS
 JAN 19

Mr. Charles Brock.

From the
 Army of
 Occupation

Rockingham
 -County Virginia

TO

Atat Write soon.

write soon and answer all those Durye, and every
 thing else that is going on. do not fail to write often
 my love to all inquiring friends, and especially to all
 the ladye. and ever believe me yours Geo
 a dear, J. P. Brock