

Some of you write soon and
let me know the news in general

Washington Jan 1st 1862
To my kind parents

Received your kind
letter yesterday it is needless for me
to tell you the joy it gave me to
read it or them you wished me a merry
christmas and now I will take this opportunity
of wishing you a happy new year one and
all Aunt Polly to. Christmas day I
was on centry duty two hours and
the rest of the day I had to myself.
when I was on duty I was stationed within
a few rods of Columbia Colledge the
I do not know as I ever enjoyed a happier
Christmas in my life the next day we
drilled in the saber exercise on the
next day we were drilled in the inspection
of arms Saturday we drilled with the
saber and marched out to see a reg
of lance drill it was a splendid thing
Sunday we were out on inspection in the

to pray just on these
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letter

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morning and at two o'clock there
was preaching on the ground I am sorry to
say that but few were out there were
25 privates and ten officers including the
elder there is some lack somewhere or else
there is. (well I will not tell) his text was
in the 5th chapter of Matthew & 16 verse after
preaching we went to our practices and
ang. some hymns and read some in our bibles
and went out on dress parade and then
cooked our supper and after roll call we
retired to sleep Monday we drilled in
marching and wheeling by companies
preparing for a review the next day
Tuesday we got up and dressed around
and blacked our boots and polished our brass
shoulder plates and sabers and at ten o'clock
we were marched out on the color line for
review which was done by general Palmer
and staff and then we were mustered on
the pay roll but have not been paid
yet when I get it shall I send it
home or get it into a treasury note

There was a heavy cannon
over the river last night

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let me know your mind on it or
whether it would be safe to send it in
a letter or not. The next time that
I see the Honorable J^r Fenton I will speak
to him about those documents yesterday
after review I went on guard so I had
the opportunity of being on guard when the
new year came in I thought as I was pacing
my beat slowly in the beautiful night
Behold what has one short year brought
forth little did I think last new years
night where where I would be at the present
It would take quite a volume to contain
the thoughts that passed through my mind
that night and I wondered where I should
be next new years eve I was relieved
from duty at nine o'clock this morning
This is the warmest and pleasantest new years
day I ever saw the roads are dusty
I have not seen mud enough to get my
over shoe since I have been here unless
it was in the brook the soil here is
dry and looks as red as brick dust

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it is time for me to attend getting dinner
it is my turn to day.

well I have got dinner and washed
the dishes and put them away make
you would like to know what we
had for dinner well I will you we
had beef steak fried and bread and
coffee sugar and molasses after dinner
it was announced that there would be
some new year speeches made by some
of our officers all that attended were
requested to wear their side arms

please let me know
whether you have

E. Stever spoke first and then Capt. Stinson
and then a Lieut and then Capt. Anderson
to my notion they got the of our chaplain
after this was over I got supper which
consisted of sweet peas fried steak and
coffee crackers and bread &c make you
think that it strange for me to cook.
but just please tell the girls not to
get married until the soldiers return
home and then they can get one that
is can cook and wash and iron and
do all kinds work fighting not except
well this is about done on account of so on
tell give my love to Aunt Pop and tell
Walskan that I will write to him
soon I want to go down to Fort Washington
first if I can get a pass
to my much respected parents, Cassimer

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