

MP

Jan. 22 - 1862

J. Webster

Shelburne Co.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

William H. ...
Kingville

1862

A help (??) ^{recog} ^{of} ^{recognition} ^{with} ^{you}

Camp Franklin Pa.
Dec. 31st 1861.

Dear Loved Brothers,

The news from you has been of such nature as to fill me with sorrow mingled with gratitude. That you should suffer so much simply on acct. of misguided action & have that suffering drawn out by miserable medical attendance, seems to be too bad a lot for purpose & sacrifice noble & true.

And now, when you have so much to occupy your time in your own parts, that you should be so full of kindly care for me, awakens, let me assure you, all my warmest emotions (The tears will flow while I write.) I believe I am a better man for having them awakened & am at your debtors again. Pardon me if I say that in this, your actions I see a deeper meaning in the phrase "suffer & be strong" (you will not think I say it to flatter) I do not know but it is your most potent means of influencing the world. "If I do live I will be kind to thee"

Your letter has done me much good. You are kind to settle the matter of meanness in Laura's mind. You could not have done me a greater favor. I was not aware (and am glad of it) of her state of mind till I recd. your letter. — But I cannot write about it. You have my thanks. —

We are to be mustered for pay in a few minutes & I must hasten. To speak of things in camp now since Ed. has so recently given you the minutes would be of little interest. Some things however he could not tell you. Bartlett is about sick. Lt. Col. Adams Comiz. He puts on some "airs" & is not gaining friends here. yet in some respects I think him superior to an Col. He is so strict I call him "Lord Angelo". Things on the whole are much better

than they have been at any previous time. Even Capt. Wanger now ventures to now & then say a few words to his Co. by way of strict enforcement of order. (This you know he always left to the Lt's mostly to Ed.) It is in this that Capt. is a coward. Backed as he is now, he even dares almost dare to be brave. But we want Ed. here. We shall rejoice when he comes.

You must write me about that festival. I have some curiosity in the matter. — Your budget of news about College matters was the most I have heard for some time. So in "Esse Dixit." For persistence you can match the world. Jonts is nothing only as he is better looking & of "family" — The health of the army is not as good as it was so far as I can judge. The cold weather is in some way deleterious. It may be worse in our regts than in others. The trouble here is with the Quartermaster Dept. We have no water fit to drink or use even for washing purposes. Hindrances are thrown in the way of getting even such as we have in reach. We have no wood to bring some tightly rods or more on our backs. Under such circumstances we could hardly expect to be healthy. (You know the surgical skill of the regts.)

Our Chaplain has much trouble. I do not think he is well qualified for the place. He does not carry sufficient force to overbear opposition even such as comes from small men. He labors hard enough but seems to fail in performance. — But I must close for the present. I will add more if I can get time after Mustering, before the mail closes. If not my best wishes attend you. I bid you a hasty but brotherly adieu.

A. W. B. S. Jr.

It should wish to be remembered. You are often spoken of by the boys & always in the highest terms. By "Swish Zouze was fine. He was the best fellow in the Co."