

Perrysburg Dec. 1 [1862]

Friend Job

I now sit down to write you a few lines. I am well and hope this will find you the same. I recd your letter the 27th of November with ____ I am glad to hear that you are not homesick. I would like to be there this morning long enough to see how all of you look. I suppose that you have seen the president by this time. Do you remember that fall that he was elected you and Ed said that you was a going to see him when he got to the white house. You little expected to go the way you did. I have been to school 1 week. Our school has cept 3 weeks. Our teachers name is Frank Rich. I guess you will remember him. He spoke a piece over to Markhams that night we went over there to

spelling school last winter. He taught school over west of Dayton last winter. I guess we shall have a good school this winter. We all think the teacher is about right. We have had 26 scholars but all of them do not come yet. Mr. Sanders come very near getting killed a few days ago. He was coming from Perrysburg and he over took Mit Burke and he was high. He wanted to ride so Mr. Sanders let him ride. They had not gone but a little ways before Mit begun to sing. Mr. Sanders told him he must not sing going along the road when he hit Mr. Sanders three times and then he drewed a pistol. Said he was going to shoot him and then Mr. S threw him out into the dich and come home and left him. Bill Roads is dead. He died at Randolph but he was brought here to be buried. He died of the palpitation of the heart. It is not very good weather now. It is quite cold. It snows part of the time. It is not very good weather to go to school in. I heard that you had the mumps 4 days. I hope you enjoyed your self while you had them. I hope you will get along without being sick any more. I can not think of any more at present. Write as soon as you get this and tell me how all of you get along.

From your friend

M. G. B.

Courtesy of Phil Palen, Gowanda, New York

(On printed letterhead, Camp John Manley)

April 18th 1863

Dear Sir

I thought I would try & write you a few lines to let you know that I am still alive & kicking I have not rec'd a letter from you in over a week but I think there must be 1 @ the Regt. for me the Regt. has been up on the Rappahannock @ Kellys ford 6 days to guard it while a large body of Cavalry crossed to make a raid on the rebs they are expected back to day the Division hospital has been moved about 2 miles from where it was to within about ½ mile of brooks station so I am now where I can hear the cars I walked down to the station & back yesterday it is the farthest I have walked & I felt about tired out when I got back we do not have anything here fit for a sick man to eat they have not paid us of yet since we got our two months pay this is headed camp manley but I am not exactly there well I do not know as I have any more to say now write soon

J. B. Dawley

PS. I wish you would send me a few more postage stamps I am about out

J B Dawley

Mark H. Dunkelman collection



CAMP "JOHN MANLEY," 154TH REG'T N. Y. VOL.,
1st Brigade, 2d Division, 11th Corps, Army Potomac.

Near Stafford C. H., Va., ^{19th} Apr 28th 1863.

Dear Sir

I thought
I would try & write you
a few lines to let you
know how I am. Still
alive & kicking I have
not rec'd. a letter from
you in over a week but
I think there must be
some the Regt because the
right to be in your hands
the Rappahannock & Kelley
I don't know what it is
but a large body of
Cavalry crossed to make
a raid on the job they
are expected back to day
the Division hospital has
been moved about 2 miles

from where it was to within
about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of Brooks Station
so I am now where I can
hear the cars I walked
down to the station &
back yesterday it is the
farthest I have walked
& I felt about tired out
when I got back we do
not have any thing here
fit for a sick man to
eat they have not paid
us of yet since we got our
two months pay this is
headed camp money but
I am not exactly there
well I do not know
as I have any more to
say now write soon

J. B. Danoley

P.S. I wish you would
send me a few more
postal stamps I am
about out J B King



CAMP "JOHN MANLEY," 154TH REG'T N. Y. VOL.,
1st Brigade, 2d Division, 11th Corps, Army Potomac.

Near Stafford C. H., Va.,

1863.

Apr. 24th [1863]

Brother Albert

as I feel pretty well to day I thought I would try & write you a few lines to let you know that I am still kicking & still @ the hospital I am gaining slowly all the time but I cannot walk any great distance yet it is as much as I want to do to go to the station & back it is a little more than a mile there & back Doctor Rugg got back yesterday he brought me some maple sugar which he said mother sent to me tell her that I thank her very much for sending it it tasted the best of any thing I have had since I came in Virginia it is raining here to day it has rained more than 1/2 of the time for the last week here the Regiment is still up on the Rappahannock yet, they are expected back in a day or 2 & then I suppose we shall get paid off Doc. let me have 2 dollars yesterday & I guess that will last me until pay day all we get here is dry bread & a little tea or coffee just which we like best the bread is not exactly such as you get @ home I have to bye butter to eat on it or I could not eat it at all well I cannot think of any more to write & I guess I'll stop write soon & oblige J. B. D [Job B. Dawley]

[Mark H. Dunkelman collection]

Lookout Valley
Tenn.
Jan. 9th /64

Dear Brother

As I have a few spare moments I thought I would write you a few lines to pass away time. It is raining here to day. It has been quite cold here for a few days but it is now warmer. My health is as good as common & I am enjoying myself first rate.

I think we shall stay here all winter &. I guess you may send a small box &, among other things I wish you would send me 2 lbs. of soda & 2 lbs. of creamatartar also a few lbs. of butter in a tin pail with a good cover on &. Do not forget to put in a chunk of maple sugar. Let Lucina know about it also Rus. Do not have any thing sent which will damage. Do not send any pickels. The more butter you send the better. Do not forget the soda & creamatartar. If you should have any thing in except for me, mark the things. I do not think of any thing more. Direct it to Doctor C. C. Rugg Asst. Surgeon 154th Regt. N. Y. V. They would take more notice of it than they would in my name. Put handle with care on one side of the box. Well I have nothing more to write now. Write soon & oblige.

Your Brother J. B. Dawley

Lookout Valley
Apr. 9th/64

Dear Brother

I take this opportunity of writing you a few lines to let you know that I still occupy a place in the land of the living my health has been good since my return. I am in my Company now I have been on guard once on picket once & have done considerable beside I am of the opinion that I might have been Sergeant if I had remained in my Company all the time & had my health the weather is just about warm enough for comfort here but it rains about $\frac{1}{2}$ of the time I tent with George Bailey and John Waters I am more contented here I supposed I should be for a while we are living pretty well here now & we have a ballplay about every day & a dance about every other night if any package comes there with my name on it sealed up put it in a safe place until my return well I have nothing more now write soon & oblige

J. B. Dawley

Head Quarters Co. K 154th N.Y.
Near Pumpkinvine Creek G.A.
June 1st/64

Dear Brother

I have got hold of a little paper this morning & I thought I would write you a few lines to let you know that I am still alive & well we left Lookout Valley May 4th about 4 o'clock Pm. we marched several days without any adventures worth relating on the 7th we crossed the mountain @ _____ Gap passed a small village called Gordonville & encamped for the night here some of our boys were fired on by Rebel pickets but escaped unharmed on the 8th we left camp about 10 ½ Am. marched 3 or 4 miles with a line of skirmishers in front. as we got near dug Gap or stony faced ridge as it is more familiarly called our skirmishers were fired upon we formed in line of battle & advanced on them @ 2 ½ Pm. before ordering us forward Gen. Garey rode up in front of us & told us to go to the top of the mountain if we could we advanced over fences through creeks & gullies (keeping as good a line as possible) about a mile before reaching the mountain, & here came the tug of war the side of the mountain was so steep in some places that we were obliged to get hold of the bushes to pull ourselves up they did not open fire upon us until we got within 10 or 12 rods of the top we rushed up until we got within about 5 or 6 rods of the top & halted to take breath (as we were nearly exhausted) & here the fighting commenced in earnest we made ourselves as secure as possible by getting behind trees & large rocks I got behind a rock we were so near together that a good share of the shots took effect I fired 4 shots & took good aim 2 balls came very near me just missing my head 2 inches lower & I would have been a gone sucker we were ordered to rise & charge we started forward but the balls came so thick & fast that our men fell like grass before the scythe the color bearer fell dead with a ball through his chin & breast one of the color corporals then picked them up & shared the same fate. Philo Markham, also a color corporal then picked them up & got a ball through his arm they were brought off by the 4th man the firing was more than we could stand [and we were] obliged to retreat down the hill we lost in killed 8 missing 7 (supposed to be killed) & 41 wounded we layed still 3 days on the [12th] we moved to the right passing through snake creek Gap here I recd. your letter with \$5.00 in it [line obscured by fold] was the 13th we moved forward to the front into rifle pits but were not engaged on the 14th we moved to the left. on the 15th we were engaged near Resacca whipped the Rebs & followed them up on the 16th we continued our march the 17th 18th & 19th when we stopped near Cassville & remained there until the 23rd, when we started on again. we came upon the enemy again @ this place on the 25 about noon we advanced on them just before night we had a hard fight but drove them about 1 mile our Regt. was lucky this time getting none killed & only 9 wounded we had 3 wounded at Resacca making our loss in all since we left Lookout Valley 68 killed & wounded we have now about 100 guns in the Regt. we have lain here since the 25th without any very hard fighting they are skirmishing every day & they have made 2 or 3 charges on us but we have good breastworks so that they do not hurt many I was on the skirmish line I lost my knapsack @ the mail is going out so I shall have to break off in a hurry write soon & oblige yours truly

J B Dawley

Atlanta Sept. 21st/64

Dear Brother I have just recd. a letter from you containing some stamps & \$5.00 in money I perused it with much pleasure all except the part stating that you did not know but you should enlist I advise you not to do it but if you should be sure & come to this Regt. & be sure to see that they do not fool you out of it but you had better remember what I tell you & not get into a place where it is impossible for you to get from until your time is out I have never been sorry that I enlisted but it is different with you & if you should come away the old folks would be left entirely alone a year would not be as long as 3 & if I was @ home I should not care so much about it but it takes a man just about 1 year to get broke in

We have had a very rainy day here but it is clearing off & I guess the rain is over I agree with you as regards Alice she is an excellent girl althoug Vie is a little the best company that makes me think of an ambrotype which I sent her when I was @ home she wished me to pick her out a man here & send his picture & if she liked him she would send for him I happened to find an old picture in the dirt pretty well scatched up & I sent her that I asked her if I should send him along without writing any thing more @ all I have recd. no answer from it & I suppose she thinks the Dawleys are meaner than ever

well I have no more time to write now please write as soon as you get this & oblige your
Brother

J. B. Dawley

Savannah Jan 15th/64 [1865]

Dear Brother

I recd. your letter of the fifth this morning & take the first opportunity of answering it. I am a tough seed this morning as usual. my health is good although I am not very fleshy. I am in good running order I weigh 143 lbs. & I am fleshy enough for this country we are having very fine weather lately & I presume much warmer than it is in old Cattaraugus I have been to church this morning & heard a very good sermon & it was the most splendid house I was ever in the music was also good & all I wanted was to be acquainted so I could sit with a woman but it will not take long to get acquainted I am acquainted with a few females now but it does not seem much like the north I should like to be @ home about 20 days merssy how the greenbacks would fly I tell you I would have one tall spree I would make them think that Soldiers were cuses I would make Lydia Johnson hump around lively she writes to me more now than any other Split tail & I tell you she writes a pretty good letter & you ought to see some of my eloquence go forth when I answer them as I quote from Milton & Shakespere. I guess I shall get quite well acquainted with her by the time I get home I should like to see Del. Rugg about 15 minutes I could take the winning smile which you spoke about off from her face but I suppose Doc. keeps her pretty straight now

well Albert we are getting rather poor rations @ present the vessels have not got to running very regular yet but it is improving every day our prospects are quite good for staying here but still we may move any day we are kept in a state of uncertainty. I have been speculating some since I came here I have made about \$50 or \$60 if I could have known that we were going to stay here when we came here I would have written for you to come down you could have made \$300 or \$300 this winter if I was not a soldier I could make more. Col. Loomice our sutler would employ me well I can not write any more now please write soon & oblige

J. B. Dawley

P.S. I transmit some songs to you in this J. B. D.

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