

On Picket Jan 26 [1863]

Dear sister

I resceived your letter of the 10th and was glad to hear from you was glad you did not wait untill I had written to you you may know I shall always be glad to hear from you or any of the friends as often as they chose to write it is difficult for me to always write when I would like to there is one I must write to regular the rest of the time I have to write I must divide among the rest of my correspondents as well as I can as often as you chose write and shall always be glad to resceive them we have no winter quarters and weather is to cold the most of the time to write with comfort my health has ben making good so far I have one or two down spells but they did not last long I guess I eat to meny hardtacks the boys from our Town are all well and healthy and have ben with the exeptions of Enery we have not heard from him in sum time, I suppose the papers have told you of the advance of Burnsidies Army and how it got set in the mud and had to retreat or fall back to camp I had a pretty good chance to see the most of it as we wer in the advance and wer the first to come back there wer plenty of wagons of all kinds that wer in the mud and could not be stired untill Corderoy roads wer made to drive on if we had ben one or two days earlier and got acros the river and the mud stoped us we should ben annihilated I am well pleased to hear so good news from home to hear that the meeting have so good an efect and that sum few have ben converted I and prey that many more may give them selves to God and that meny of my own friends will be awakened to a sence of their duty Pheby do not give back one inch pres forward know for yourself that you are a child of god do all the good you can make it the business of your life it is good to serve the lord it pays every day in the end we reap a great reward at this present time there is a great deal to contend with there is a great many priva- ledges we are deprived of and we must bear it all patiently improve all of your time in school Give my respects to the school marm and all other inquiring friends when you write tell me all of the news that is al for this time

From Your Brother Philo

To Phebe Markham

Camp in the Woods
May 30th Near Stafford

Dear Sister I am thankful for this another privalege to write a few lines to you hoping they will find you in good health also the rest of friends that are in Catt I am well now but have not ben for the past two weeks there is now nearly two weeks since I have done any duty there was one week I was considerable sick had some fever but not much I think it was caused mostly by my sistim being out of order eating to much and not having suficient exercize you know I was a great hand to allway be eating and uncle Sam feeds us pretty well in fact he gives us more than I can eat some of the boys will eat all they get and want more but I cant soft Bread now all the time but not so good as we did have one spell I resceived a letter from you about the Eighth but there has ben so much writing and so much going on I have forgotten what you wrote I think you wer going to stay to Mr Rices this sumer I think you said you did not know what to write cant you tell me what the folks are all doing Old and young who goes to meeting and whea-ther the singing is kept up this somer or not whare all the girls are and what kind of dashes they are trying to cut this seson and also of the young men I think you can find some thing that you can fill a large sheet or two of them pretty full I should like to learn the particulars of how the meetings are getting along at the sumit whea-ther there is much interest or not and if there is a large atendance if any of the new converts are growing Cold think up a long letter and write to me the practice of writing will do you good and me good to read I supose you have learned long before this of the battle and the part our Reg took in it and that I was not in the fight I was in the rear with the teams all I see of the fight was early Monday morn- ing I was aroused by the Rebs throwing shells into our train they had labored hard all night to make a road to run a battery whare they could shell us they created considerable of a muss for a few moments when their batery was taken by our men which put a stop to their fun after the fight we wer all taken back to our old camp some have moved just fas enough to get on a new piece of ground our Reg day before yesterday moved near a mile from the old camp into a piece of woods it was thought to be very unhealthy on the same ground whare we win- tered and I think the change is a good one the wounded men are geting along as well as could be expected George Real wound is very bad but is doing well now no more this time Philo

Camp in the Woods
May 30th Near Stafford

Dear Sister I am thankful for this another privalege to write a few lines to you hoping they will find you in good health also the rest of friends that are in Catt. I am well now but have not been for the past two weeks there is now nearly two weeks since I have done any duty there was one week I was considerable sick had some fever but not much I think it was caused mostly by my sistim being out of order eating to much and not having suficient exersize you know I was a great hand to allway be eating and Uncle Sam feeds us pretty well in fact he gives us more than I can eat some of the boys will eat all they get and want more but I cant soft bread now all the time but not so good as we did have our spell

I received a letter from you about the Eighth but there has been so much writing and so much going on I have forgotten what you wrote I think you wer going to stay to Mr. Ries (?) this sumer I think you said you did not know what to write cant you tell me what the folks are all doing Old and young who goes to meeting and wheather the singing is kept up this sommer or not whare all the girls are and what kind of dashes they are trying to cut this seson and also of the young men I think you can find some thing that you can fill a large sheet or two of them pretty full I should like to learn the perticulars of how the meetings are getting along at the sumit [Dayton] wheather there is much interest or not and if there is a large atendance if any of the new converts are growing Cold think up a long letter and write to me the practice of writing will do you good and me good to read

I suppose you have learned long before this of the battle and the part our Reg took in it and that I was not in the fight I was in the rear with the teams all I see of the fight was early Monday morning I was aroused by the Rebs throwing shells into our train they had labord hard all night to make a road to run a battery whare they could shell us they created considerable of a muss for a few moments when their batery was taken by our men which put a stop to their fun after the fight we wer all taken back to our old camps some have moved just fas enough to get on a new piece of ground our Reg day before yesterday moved near a mild from the old camp into a piece of woods it was thought to be very unhealthy on the same ground whare we winterd and I think the change is a good one the wounded men are geting along as well as could be expected George Real wound is very bad but is doing well now No more this time Philo

Tell Aaron and Adelbert to write a letter telling me all the news they have

WRITTEN BY CORPORAL PHILO MARKHAM, CO. B., 154TH N.Y. VOLS.

Tell Aaron and Adelbert to write
a letter telling me all the news they hear

Camp in the Woods
May 30th near Stafford

Dear Sister I am thankful
for this another privilege to write
a few lines to you hoping they
will find you in good health also
the rest of friends that are in Cal.
I am well now but have not been
for the past two weeks there is now
nearly two weeks since I have done any
duty. There was one week I was considerably
sick had some fever but not much
I think it was caused mostly by my
constitution being out of order eating too
much and not having sufficient exer-
cise you know I was a great hand
to always be eating and Uncle Sam
feeds us pretty well in fact he gives
us more than I can eat some of the boys
will eat all they get and want more
but I can't eat bread now all the time
but not so good as we did have one of

May 30, 1865

I received a letter from you about the
8th but there has been so much
writing and so much going on I have
forgotten what you wrote I think you
were going to stay to our wives. This
summer I think you said you did
not know what to write and you tell
me what the folks are all doing old
and young who goes to meetings and
whether the singing is kept up this
summer or not where all the girls are and
what kind of dashes they are trying to
cut this season and also of the young
men I think you can find something
that you can fill a large sheet or two
of them pretty full I should like to
learn the particulars of how the meetings
are getting along at the summit whether
there is much interest or not and if there
is a large attendance if any of the new
converts are growing. Could think up a
long letter and write to me the practice
of writing will do you good and is good to read

I suppose you have learned long before
this of the battle and the Lord our Reg took
in it and that I was not in the fight
I was in the rear with the teams all I
see of the fight was early Monday morning
I was aroused by the bells throwing shells
into our train they had labored hard all
night to make a road to run a battery
where they could shell us they created considerable
of a fuss for a few moments when their
battery was taken by our men which gave
a step to their gun after the fight we
were all taken back to our old camp some
have moved just far enough to get on a
new piece of ground our Reg day before
yesterday moved near a wood from the
old camp into a piece of woods it was
thought to be very unhealthy on the same
ground where we wintered and I think the
change is a good one the wounded men
are getting along as well as could be expected
George Neal mannot is very bad but is doing
well now no more this time Philo

Tell Abram and Adalbert to write
a letter telling me all the news they hear

Camp in the Woods
May 30th near Stafford

Dear Sister I am thankful
for this another privilege to write
a few lines to you hoping they
will find you in good health also
the rest of friends that are in Cal^a
I am well now but have not been
for the past two weeks there is now
nearly two weeks since I have done any
duty there was one week I was considered
sick had some fever but not much
I think it was caused mostly by my
excitement being out of order eating too
much and not having sufficient exer-
cise you know I was a great hand
to always be eating and Uncle Sam
feeds us pretty well in fact he gives
us more than I can eat some of the boys
will eat all they get and won't spare
but I can't sleep bread now all the time
but not so good as we did have one spell

I received a letter from you about the
8th but there has been so much
writing and so much going on I have
forgotten what you wrote I think you
were going to stay to our wives this
summer I think you said you did
not know what to write could you tell
me what the folks are all doing old
and young who goes to meeting and
whether the singing is kept up this
season or not where all the girls are and
what kind of dashes they are trying to
cut this season and also of the young
men I think you can find some thing
that you can fill a large sheet or two
of them pretty full I should like to
learn the particulars of how the meetings
are getting along at the summit whether
there is much interest or not and if there
is a large attendance if any of the new
converts are growing could think up a
long letter and write to me the practice
of writing will do you good and me good too

I suppose you have learned long before
this of the battle and the part our boys took
in it and that I was not in the fight
I was in the rear with the teams all I
see of the fight was early Monday morning
I was aroused by the boys throwing shells
into our train they had labored hard all
night to make a road to run a battery
where they could shell us they erected ^{up} a
battery for a few moments when their
battery was taken by our men which gave
a step to their gun after the fight we
were all taken back to our old camp some
have moved just far enough to get on a
new piece of ground our boys did before
yesterday moved near a mill from the
old camp into a piece of woods it was
thought to be very unhealthy on the same
ground where we wintered and I think the
change is a good one the wounded men
are getting along as well as could be expected
George Neal wounded is very bad but is doing
well now no more this time P. H. L.

Camp Jenkins, Lookout Valley, Jan 13, 1864

Dear Sister it is with pleashure that I now improve a few moments time to write a few lines Glad of even this priviledge of coresponding and are we worthy of these privelages I fear we are not but we enjoy them and we have the greatest reson to be thankful that our day and age afords so much greater privalages than former days have don the great distance that lays between us is soon traversed by our letters when a few years ago it would take weeks whare it now takes days so let us improve these privalages not as our own work but the work of an ever merciful being one who loves to do for his people and has prosperd them in all things and we although weaker than former Generations are wiser in the arts and siences and the improvement through his goodness is greatly in our favor let us realise them while we enjoy them and be thankful that things are so well with us as they are my health is pretty good I can eat all any man needs and still want more I grew four some on the march and was not well all the time the march was pretty hard for me so soon after laying in the Rear so long I am feeling well do not get homesick a bit but very anxious to have the ware end I am full of hope and believe the rebellion will yeald still I can stay the whole three years rather than to come home till the ware is ended that is I want to see the end of the ware worse than I want to come home we gave the Rebs a good chase her I do not think they can stand meny such and why need they stand one more their case is hopeless and why not give it up at once without more blood

Phebe if you want I should write an answer at once when I resceive one send a stamp along and then I shall think you want to hear from me stamps are hard to get here every thing is very high paper is 50 cts a quire so it costs me quite a bit to write as much as I do but I like to resceive letters and consequently have to write some you have plenty of time and can write considerable if you take a notion and if you have no perticular soldier corespondant that you think is more worthy of your perticular atention than your brothers I should like to have the number of letters increased a little bit if the solder has your atention write as often as you can I want to hear from you and all the rest of the folks as often as posible when you write have the rest of the folks write so as to make a big letter

When you write tell me how you are getting along with religion I hope you are growing in grace and trying to live wholly for God make this your first duty and see thoroughly to it it is the one great thing above all others if you have the love of God in your heart it is worth to much to be prized the affairs of this world are of but little consequence in comparison so see that you are Gods child and then look to the things of earth as things important but not first I rejoice that I have the Love of Christ in my heart I allway know where to go when I feel that I need help when I am down harted I all ways find comfort and it is worth every thing here in my present circumstances so journey on and let us ---- shure of a home in heaven where there is no sorrows nor trials No more this time Philo A. Markham

To Sister Phebe

Camp Jenkins, Lookout Valley
Jan 13, 1864

Dear Sister it is with pleasure that I now improve a few moments time to write a few lines Glad of even this priviledge of coresponding and are we worthy of these privelages I fear we are not but we enjoy them and we have the greatest reson to be thankful that our day and age afords so much greater privalages than former days have don the great distance that lays between us is soon traversed by our letters when a few years ago it would take week whare it now takes days so let us improve these privalages not as our own work but the work of an ever merciful being one who loves to do for his people and has prospered them in all things and we although weaker than former Generations are wise in the arts and siences and the improvements through his goodness is greatly in our favor let us realise them while we enjoy them and be thankful that things are so well with us as they are my health is pretty good I can eat all any man needs and still want more I grew poor some on the march and was not well all the time the march was pretty hard for me so soon after laying in the Rear so long I am feeling well do not get homesick a bit but very anxious to have the war end I am full of hope and believe the rebellion will yeald still I can stay the whole three years rather than to come home till the war is ended that is I want to see the end of the war worse than I want to come home we gave the Rebs a good chase here I do not think they can stand meny such and why need they stand one more their case is hopeless and why not give it up at once without more blood Phebe if you want I should write an answer at once when I resceive one send a stamp along and then I shall think you want to hear from me stamps are hard to get here every thing is very high paper is 50 cts a quire so it costs me quite a bit to write as much as I do but I like to resceive letters and consequently have to write some you have plenty of time and can write considerable if you take a whim and if you have no particular soldier Corespondent that you think is more worthy of your particualr attention than your Brother I should like to have the number of letters increased a little but if the soldier has your attention write as often as you can I want to hear from you and all the rest of the folks as often as possible when you write have the rest of the folks write so as to make a big letter When you write tell me how you are geting along with religion I hope you are growing in grace and trying to be wholly for God make this your first duty and see thoroughly to it it is the one Great thing above all others if you have the love of God in your heart it is worth to much to be _____ the affairs of this world are of but little consequence in company so see that you are Gods child and then look to the things of earth as things important but not first I rejoice that I have the Love of Christ in my heart I allway know whare to go when I feel that I need help when I am down harted I all ways find comfort and it is worth every thing here in my present circumstances so journey on and let us make sure of a home in heaven where there is no sorows nor trials no more this time Philo A Markham

To Sister Phebe

10
I will spare all of your time in
school. Give my respects to
the school marm and all
other inquiring friends
when you write tell me all the
news that is at for this time.

From Your Brother
Chas. M. Markham

To Chas. M. Markham



Gen. WOOL.

11
On Picket Jan 24

Dear sister

I received your letter of
the 10th and was glad to hear
from you and glad you did not
wait until I had written since
you may know I shall always
be glad to hear from you or any
of the friends as often as they
chose to write it is difficult for
me to always write when I want
like to there is one I must write
to regular the rest of the time I
have to write I must attend
among the rest of my correspon-
dence as well as I can as often as I can
chose write and shall always be glad
to receive them we have no
winter quarters and weather is
to cold the most of the time to
write with comfort

my health has been making
 good as far I have one or two
 down spells but they did not
 last long I guess I eat too many
 hard ticks the boys from ¹⁰⁰⁰ and
 Town are all well and healthy and
 have been with the exception of
 Conery we have not heard from
 him in a long time, I suppose
 the papers have told you of the
 advance of Burnside's Army and
 how it got out in the mud and
 had to retreat or fall back to the
 I had a pretty good chance to see the
 most of it as we were in the advance
 and was the first to come back there
 plenty of obyers of all things that
 was in the mud and could not
 be struck with a horse or a
 ever made to drive on if we had
 been one or two days earlier and
 got across the river and the mud
 stayed us we should have been annihilated

I am well pleased to hear
 good news from home as to
 hear that the meeting have a
 good an effect and that a
 few have been converted I
 and pray that many more may
 give their selves to God and
 that many of my own friends
 will be awakened to a sense
 of their duty. Oh do not give
 back one inch give forward
 know for yourself that you
 are a child if you do all the
 good you can make in the
 business of your life it is
 good to serve the Lord it pays
 every day in the end we reap
 a great reward at this present
 time there is a great deal to
 contend with there is a great
 many priviledges as we are de-
 prived of and we must bear it
 all patiently

Camp Jenkins, Redoubt Valley, Jan 12, 1861

Dear Sister it is with pleasure that I now improve a few moments here to write a few lines. Glad of every thin privilege of corresponding and are we worthy of these privileges I fear we are not but we enjoy them and we have the greatest reason to be thankful that our day and age affords so much greater privilage than former days have done. The great distance that lays between us is soon traversed by our letters when a few years ago it would take week where it now takes days so let us improve these privilage not as our own work but the work of an ever merciful being one who loves to do for his people and has prospered them in all things and we although weaker than former generations are wiser in the arts and sciences and the improvements through his goodness is greatly in our favor let us realize them while we enjoy them and be thankful that things are so well with us as they are. My health is pretty good I can eat all my main meat and still want more I grew four stone in the march and was not well all the time the march was pretty hard for me so soon after laying in the rear so long I am feeling well do not get homesick but but very anxious to have the war end I am full of hope and believe the rebellion will yield still I can stay the whole three years rather than to come home till the war is ended that is I want to see the end of the war worse than I want to come home we gave the rebels a good chase here I do not think they can stand many such and why need they stand any more their case is hopeless and why need they give it up at once without more blood

Phoebe if you want I should write an answer at once when
I receive one send it straight away and then I shall think you
would be better than the stamps are hard to get here every
thing is very high paper is so etc & you don't cost me
quite a bit to write as much as I do but I like to reserve
letters and consequently leave to write to some you have plenty
of these and can write considerable if you take a notion
and if you have no particular letters correspondents that
again I think is more worthy of your special attention
than any other I should like to receive the number of
letters increased a little but if the soldier has your attention write
as often as you can I would like to hear from you and all the rest
of the folks as often as possible when you write have the
rest of the folks written as to write a big letter

When you write tell me how you are getting along with
religion I hope you are growing in grace and trying to live
wholly for God make this your first duty and see thoroughly
that it is the one great thing above all others if you have
the love of God in your heart it is worth to wish to be pined
the pains of this world are of but little consequence in comparison
so see that you are Gods child and then look to the things of
earth as things of importance but not in it I rejoice that I
have the love of Christ in my heart I always know where
I am and I feel that I need help when I am down hearted I
will always find comfort and it is worth every thing here
and my present is not considered so far as you and let
me know where or a home in heaven where there is no
sorrow nor trials no more this time Phillet Matham
To Sister Phoebe

Camp Jenkins, Lookout Valley, Jan 10, 1864

Dear Mother it is with pleasure that I now improve a few moments time to write a few lines. Glad of even this privilege of corresponding and are we worthy of these privileges I fear we are not but we enjoy them and we have the greatest reason to be thankful that our day and age affords so much greater ^{privilege} than former days have done. The great distance that lays between us is soon traversed by our letters when a few years ago it would take week where it now takes days so let us improve these ^{privilege} and as our own work has the work of an ever merciful being one who loves to do for his people and has prospered them in all things and we although weaker than former generations are we in the arts and sciences and the improvement through his goodness is greatly in our favor let us realize them while we enjoy them and be thankful that things are so well with us as they are. My health is pretty good I can eat all my man meat and still want more I grew poor some on the march and was not well all the time the march was pretty hard for me so soon after laying in the rear so long I am feeling well do not get homesick but but very anxious to have the war end I am full of hope and believe the rebellion will yield still I can stay the whole three years rather than to come home till the war is ended that is I want to see the end of the war worse than I want to come home we gave the rebels a good chase here I do not think they can stand many such and why need they stand any more their case is hopeless and why not give it up at once without more blood.

Phoebe if you want I should write an answer to once when
I receive one and as it is if I may not then I shall think you
was not to be from me. Straps are hard to get here every
thing is very high paper is so it is a good deal more
quite a bit to write so much as I do but I like to receive
letters and as frequently have to write so you have plenty
of time and so write considerable if you take a nation
and if you have no particular matter to correspond to that
again thank in much worth of your great letter a ten
the in your letters I should like to make the number of
letters increased a little but if the golden has your attention write
so often as you can I want to hear from you and all the rest
of the folks as often as possible when you write have the
rest of the folks write as far as to make a big letter

When you write tell me how you are getting along with
religion I hope you are growing in grace and trying to be
a holy for God make this your first duty and see thoroughly
to it it is the one great thing above all others if you have
the love of God in your heart it is worth to much to be part
the affairs of this world are of but little consequence in comparison
so see that you are Gods child and then look to the things of
earth as things unimportant but our in I rejoice that I
have the love of Christ in my heart I always know where
to go when I feel that I need help when I am down hearted I
all ways find comfort and it is worth every thing here
in my present circumstances so journey on and let
us meet here or a home in heaven where there is no
sorrow nor tears no more this time Phillet Mather
To Sister Phoebe