

CAMP JOHN MANLEY March 24/\_\_\_

Dearly loved Frant

I received your very kind and welcome letter day before yesterday and should have answered it yesterday, but was so busy I could not get time. Frant how glad I was to get that letter; I have been looking for it two or three days and wondering what you would write. Would you answer it in the same cold tone which characterised mine and tell me I did not know enough to know whether a letter was cold or not me; it was neither; it was in that same kind, good tone which always showed itself in your letters. And Frant how glad I am that you did write so. For it showed me that I was in the wrong and not you Frant, I ask you to excuse me and forget it all and I will do the same. I'm sorry I sent it after it was gone, but it was too late and all I had to do was to wait for your answer. I was just eating some roasted potatoes as \_\_\_\_\_ brought in my letter. You may guess I did not eat anymore till I read your letter and knew what was in it and it seemed as if a great load fell off from me all at once. Frant, that was the best letter I ever had. Well Frant, I have been up writing for the Captain making out furloughs and now I will finish this letter so it will go out tomorrow. Frant I do not think you are fickle minded nor do I ever think so. Oh Sugar, Frant I was only joking when I spoke about our spelling however, I am glad you learned that you are going to school another term. I believe it will be for your future happiness. You say your Father is going to make you a short visit - that will be nice. I should like to go home with him. I guess I might have had a ten day furlough if I had wanted it but I could not have turned around more than twice and so I thought it would not pay. As I guess we will all be home in a few months for I think we shall whip them in the next three months. I think the next place we shall make a move will be to cross the river at Frederick'sburg; and I feel confident that we shall cross and drive them from their strong position. That it will cost a good many noble lives but it must be done. I have not seen any of the 64th boys in a good while. They are about ten miles from here. \_\_\_\_\_ has seen home in Dayton and \_\_\_\_\_ sent me some dry cherries and a great big apple. Do you remember when we went over there one Sunday. I hope we may be able to be there the next time cherries are ripe. Frant I guess I will come down if you will have a sugar party. I have got three cakes to home, I will fetch them along now; about the boys; they are all well or so to be'arcund. \_\_\_\_\_ is playing checkers; Brad is \_\_\_\_\_ on; Del is not very well lately; Sell is well. I

haven't had a letter from Bill in quite a spell. I bet that Valentine was \_\_\_\_\_ but I  
must close and get my supper. I am a grand cook. Excuse all mistakes and write as  
soon as you get this. From your ever true friend. Edgar Shannon