

Letter From Harris, Charles L. written Monday, November 25th, 1861

Generated on December 18th, 2018 1:08 PM from SoldierStudies.org

Soldier: Harris, Charles L.

Allegiance: Union

Unit/Service Branch: 1st Infantry

Date Written: Monday, November 25th, 1861

Location: Camp Mclean

Correspondence Type: Letter

Subjects: Camp Life, Commanders, Comrades, Daily Life, Patriotism, Wife/Girlfriend

...Thinking perhaps this cold and disagreeable weather would make you at home somewhat concerned for our condition here in camp I have come to the conclusion to write you today some information in regard to our accomadation.

We have been very comfortable indeed and have had no particular cause to complain in the least. It has been rather disagreeable for the feet the last few days past on account of the rain which first made mud then came the snow which has made the camp ground a complete slush of mud and water this... weather and the change of condition we underwent would perhaps make you at home ... would rue the day... but as far as I am concerned (and Bill will tell you the same thing) I can say to you with perfect honesty that I was never better satisfied in my life. The fact of it is I am a great deal better satisfied than I thought I would be. Before I left I felt somewhat dubious that there might be a rash side to camp life which I had not yet imagined, or discovered, but the reality is certainly glorious, and though there may be some trials you will have the consulation to know that we are trying to do our duty to the best of our ability.

While I am writing there is about a dozen sitting around me in the tent some laughing, some talking, some singing, some writing home and such a jolly set of fellows generally are they that it would do you good to see them. There is no change for one to get the blues even if he had an inclination to do so. We are all brothers here; you ought not believe how kind the boys are to each other.

The cold weather coming on so suddenly found the most of the tents but ill prepared for it in regard to stoves. We did not provide our tent with a stove until yesterday the comfort of home to camp life. There are 15 boys in our tent and each one threw in 15cts and therely procured us a nice little stove. The way we get our coal would not be necessary to mention anyhow as far as our comfort in the tent is concerned need have no anxiety in regard to our condition.

Since I have commenced writing Ben Hubbard has given us a visit and is now entertaining the boys highly by his jokes and fun. Lee Morea is also among us giving just came in today. His chances for getting a commission as a lieutenant is growing smaller by degress and beautifully less.

There has been a great many rumors as to our destination, but like all other camp rumors it is pretty hard to get the exact truth. But be it as it may I think another week will find us in camp Dennison. The col. is now absent the... time and mail will soon leave and therefore I will have to close.

We are both in good health and enjoying ourselves finely and hope this will find all of you in the same condition.

Very much yours

CL. Harris

P.S. remember I will be at home on the next Monday, December 2nd, and you can answer this letter or nor as you wish. This letter has been written in considerable haste and therefore you will have to excuse bad writing and ladies... [unreable]...