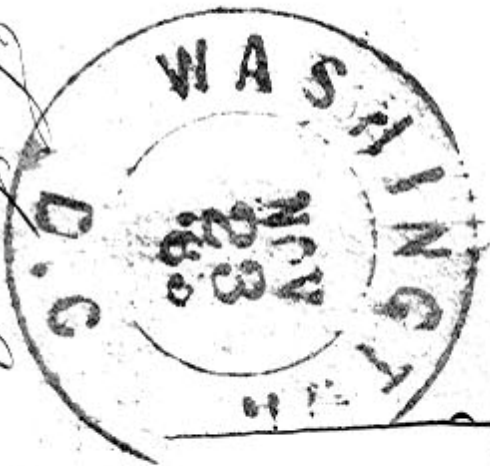


Head-Quarters, Army of the Potomac



Mrs J. H. Jones,

Stockbridge,

Benkelman Co.

Mass.

Camp near Brandy Station, Va. Nov. 21st 63

Dear Parents,

Your kind letter came on Wednesday just as I expected, but as I wrote on that day, I thought I would not answer it immediately. There is nothing going on just now, but if the "weather permits," I expect you will hear stirring news from us before long. The Gen. has ordered 15 days rations on hand, & reduced the amount of ammunition to be carried by each man from 125 Rounds to 80, which indicates a long march, but I do not dread a march so much as I used to when I had to pack a knapsack, & rations on my back & Trudge on a foot.

I am sorry you worry so much about my getting a furlough. I have not so very much longer to stay any how, but I don't think I shall stay home long if the war is not ended. I am bound to see this thing through now, but I won't resist till I am out of this, but I will try to come home between now & spring, if there is any such thing. We are living very well now, as we always do when we have good communication with

Washington. We have got a little colored boy to cook
for us, who is a very good one, & can make our
Rations hold out better than we can ourselves, we
are expecting our pay now in a few days, & I think
I will not draw any more till my time is out, &
then I will have a good pile to go back on.

Sabbath Morning,

It is clear and cold this morning,
& it seems something like a Sabbath morning
at my dear old home, but I cannot tell you
how much I would love to go to Church
to-day & sit in the old seat beside you. I
am afraid I should hardly know how to behave,
last night I dreamt I got a Lurlough & went
home & went to Church, perhaps that is
what makes me think so much about it
to day.

I am going to send you a picture in this
mail which I want you to send back by return
mail; as I would not lose it for a farthing.

Please excuse this sheet being blotted so
much, it is the last bit I had, & I could
not very well get any last night, Please
thank Miss Lammie very kindly for the
Reading Matter she sent, give my best
respects to all who may require, & Kiss
Grandma & Sister for me, & lots of love
to ourselves, From yr. aff. Son Jones