

Camp of the 11th ^{regt} ^{Mass} B^y
Battery, Fort ^{at} Whetton
Jan. 21st 1865

Dear Mother

Your very
kind letter of the 15th was
received yesterday — I was very
glad to hear from you and
learn that you was well

You spoke about taking
breakfast ~~and~~ with me. I can
assure you that many peo-
ple live ~~was~~ on worse food
the soldiers do. It is true
that do not live on cakes
and knick knacks — but as
a general thing we have
plenty of good ~~substantial~~
~~substantial~~ substantial food —
which makes our men robust
and healthy — I have
just finished my dinner.

~~which~~ and I had some
Just as nice beef stakes as
I ever ate ~~at~~ in my life.

^{By} We have beef stakes over
a week and some times twice.
I can tell you what kind
of a bed we have — We drive
some stakes in the ground and
we cut some ~~of~~ small poles
and lay them ~~across~~ across —

^{By} We then take some hay and
and spread over them — We then
spread one of our ~~to~~ blankets
on this — the rest of them we
throw over us. We have got
four woollen blankets and
one rubber blanket — We
generally roll up our over coats
and place them under for
a pillow — You may think
that this is a slim kind
of a bed — but I can ~~see~~

assure you that I take
as much comfort and sleep
as well on it as I would on
a feather bed ~~bed~~ — The sold-
iers take much more com-
fort than I expected they
could before I left home.
My bank man is Capt.
H. W. Parmore. He is a very
nice young man.
Lieut. Geo. W. Davy
is in command of our
battery at present. We have
got two Captains. — I have
received the diary you sent.
I also received a letter on
paper at the same time
but I ~~was~~ received your last
letter. I have read the letter
concerning the sufferings of
the ~~red~~ ^{own} prisoners in at Au-
tersonville — I have no doubt

but what the prisoners offer
much but I fear that that
letter is an exaggeration. You
speak of my Uncle John.

I do not believe he is
starved to death. They would
not do this as long as there
was hope. As for Betty,
I think that if she has any
respect for her friends or
her children she will cease
such unlady-like conduct and
and spend her time by look-
ing after the well-being of her
children while her husband
~~is~~ is confined within the
dungeons of our enemy. I
I have received no pay
from ~~our country~~ the
government yet even
the prospect is that the
paymaster will not be
here this month.

2 ^{am}/₁₁

It will certainly be two
or three months before we
will be paid off and perhaps
longer — When I get it I shall
send the most of it home,
and you ~~so~~ can have what
you want of it to use —

I will send you an order
on Mr. Bisell for \$25
twenty-five dollars — You may
use part of it in getting up
a box to send to me and
the rest you may use your-
self — ~~send me~~ You will
please send me fifty postage
stamps — You had better
present the order to Mr. Bisell
as soon as you get — There
will be nothing lost by
taking it — For as soon as
I get my money from the

government I can replace
it - It is raining very
hard at present - We
have had no snow here
to amount to any thing since
I have been here - It is
warm and pleasant most
of the time - I have not
much more to write at 2 o'clock
will close hoping to hear from
you again -

Your Love

G. D. Barringer,
11th N. W. First Battery
Washington, D. C.