

Camp Curtis Philadelphia, PA
Feb 6th 1862

Dear Wife,

I received your very welcome letter yesterday morning and read it with a great deal of pleasure and interest. Your letters are indeed welcome messengers to me and always have a tendency to encourage me altho I was sorry to learn that your health was so poor which makes me verry[sic] anxious to come home. I shall make an attempt to get my discharge as I cannot see much likelihood of my obtaining any position of influence or interest. I am now detailed in the Hospital so that my wages will be about \$20.00 per month since the 1st of Feb but I do not care to stay unless I have a position that will bring me upon a level with other officers and I will not stay without a commission. This regt. was paid off on the 21st inst. I have my pay from date of enlistment up to the 31st of December as private but did not get any extra pay that I was entitled to. Nor did C.D. Webster. There was an error made in returning us, C.D.W. has been acting as Q.M.S. and should have received 21 dollars per month while as it was he only got \$13 per month. We are making an effort to get part of our extra pay but cannot say how well we will succeed. Enclosed I send you five dollars and if I do not get my discharge I will send you fifteen or twenty more in a few days. I have now about \$47 in all by me and some five or six to collect as soon as the boys can get their money changed. I received from Gov. \$39 and have collected eight more. If I get my extra pay it will amount to about \$20. And if I obtain my discharge the Government will owe me about 20 more and I shall try for a free pass home. I went down to Head quarters to see the Col. today about my discharge but he was so busy I had no opportunity to speak to him about it. I shall let it alone now until next week. If I cannot get it I shall come home on a furlough for 15 days. I want to come very much. But can we afford it. I will leave it entirely for you to say for it will be depriving you of so much ready money. We will be mustering for pay again in the last day of this month. I will sit for some Photographs the first time I have leave of absence from the Hospital. I will send this to Olmstead and if you are going to be in Cleveland or Berene(?) you may tell me in your next when you will leave Olmstead.

It is my opinion that we will all get mustered out of service and discharged within six months. I wish you could come to Phila. to see the place but this for the present is out of the question. I think I could enjoy a great deal of real happiness and pleasure in viewing all the places of interest with you whom I love by my side.

I wish you would write me often for you cannot tell how much I prize your letters. I will send Ada another little Book in a few days. And in my next will give you something of a description of Phila. My breakfast is now waiting so good morning.

Yours in love and sincerity

Newton