

Camp Curtin  
Harrisburgh Pa Dec 18th 1861

Much loved Aurelia,

I received your kind letter bearing the date Dec 15th this morning with much pleasure. I had been looking anxiously for one for five or six days but each day was doomed to disappointment. When I did receive it it was read with much interest. I wrote you last evening directing to Allegany which you will probily(?) when you get to Almstead.

I will send my valise to you at Cleveland. It will contain my clothes some little Books which you can distribute as suits your taste. Also a Retticulet(?) for you worth five dollars and a China Tea sett[sic] for Ada. I was intending to send it to Allegany today and should if I had not got your letter. I was told yesterday that I had received the appointment of Hospitale Steward. But I have not as yet received official notice of it. I expect if I ask it that I can have first Lieutenants Commission in 4 or 5 weeks as S. Holmes will go up to Quarter Master and there will be a vacancy. I think that there will be a board called for examining candidates for Surgeon before long and then my chances are good which I prefer to Lieutenancy. You state that you have had the Toothache for a week. When you get to Cleveland I wish you would have them filled. I had all of mine filled yesterday with Plastic(?) filling which I think is better and cheaper than gold, it keeps the tooth white and is near the color of the tooth. I only paid four dollars for having them filled.

I think that we will be at Camp Curtin at least one month longer if not 3. You can direct to Camp Curtin care Capt. J.C. Backens(?) 114 Regt. and it will find me let me go where I will. I feel much better since I got your letter. You do not know how much I prize a letter from you. You must write me twice a week. It seemed an age since I got your last it being something more than a week. I think the last before today was received on the 8th(?) just. If you or Ada are sick let me know immediately not want to see how it should turn with you.

If we should remain here all Winter I shall try and arrange it so that you can come to Harrisburgh. We have had extremely fine weather here since we have been in camp. The Boys have fine times throwing one another up with a blanket. They take a blanket and as many as can will get hold of the edges. A man will lay upon it and then they will throw him 1 two three and up he goes fifteen or twenty feet into the air. Coming down they catch him with the Blanket.

If you were only here in Harrisburgh I could enjoy myself much in camp.

Yours with much love,

N.F. Marsh

(Around the edges of the page he adds:)

Write me while at Comeout(?) and tell me how soon you will be at Cleveland and I will write you there. Keep me posted where you move and you will always find a letter waiting for you. I take a great deal of comfort writing to you.

Your Husband

N. Marsh