

Camp Curtis Philadelphia  
Feb 2nd, 1862

Dear Wife,

This is the sabbath and I have just got clearly settled in our new camp. The morning is so beautiful that I thought it a fit time to pen a few wandering thoughts to you the partner of my life and the sharer of my fortunes or afflictions and affections.

I left Harrisburgh on Tuesday January 28th at 1 o'clock PM and arrived at Phila. at 5 the same evening. I went up to camp the next afternoon spending the forenoon looking at some of the objects of interest such as the United States Mint where all the gold and silver and copper coins are coined. Also Independence Hall where the Declaration of Independence was signed and things too numerous to mention.

Philadelphia is quite [a] city. Chestnut St. the richest st. in the city has about 5 miles solid Block. Broad St. is 10 ½ miles in length. I went to the top of the cupola on Independence Hall where you can see the whole city at one view taking in about 20 miles at one view.

I think that I shall come home as they are not disposed to give me the position agreed upon by the terms of the Consolidation as they have that position filled. Col. Jones says that he will give me a position as good or better if I will stay that I need have no fears about going into the ranks at all. But you see a man will starve to death upon promises. What I want is to have my pay increased immediately. I have had a talk with the Col. and told him he must do something or nothing and that immediately that I had lived upon promises as long as I would.

I am at present engaged in the hospital for a few days but I will not stay long unless they are disposed to do the fair thing.

We are to be paid off this week. I will lose about \$25 by the carelessness of Holmes and Webster in not returning me on special duty upon the pay roll all I will get now is 13 dollars per month.

We buried John Niles the morning we left Camp Curtin how sad it is to sicken and die away from one's home in a strange land. It makes me feel melancholy to think of it.

I have not received a line from [you] since the 23 of Jan. I think one must have been miscarried. You also wrote me in that that [sic] you purposed to send me some things week before last. If you sent them please inform me when and where you sent them and how, whether by express or freight and I will find them.

O how I wish I could see you and have a good talk with you. I am so anxious to see you that I hardly know how to contain myself. I commenced this letter this morning when I felt just like writing you a good long and affectionate letter but just as I got fairly to writing the Surgeon came in and I had to lay it by and did not have an opportunity to resume again until this evening. You will be careful in your address to give 58 Regt Camp Curtis, Philadelphia.

Yours with much love,

Newton

If you want some furs send me word and I will get them here.