

It is such
true, I do not
know how
write often
with small
love to you
all, I am
your
Affectionate
Father
Henry
Foster

Camp Adirondack Washington Aug. 16/63

Dear Wife yours came yesterday with welcome,
you with joy. It is the best food I get during the
whole week, to hear from home, the loved and cherished
ones, those whom my mind is ever on. Every sentence
of love sends joy to my heart, every line which tells
of sickness and pain, sadness. I see you in each
day in my minds eye, but Henry I cannot tell
how he looks if he was a girl I could, but a boy,
my boy, I cannot imagine how he will look,
he will be one of the greatest curiosities to me that
Oakham affords. I imagine he will be afraid of me how
strange, ones own child in fear will flee when his own
Father seeks to love it and fold it in his breast, since
I have indulged the hope of going home, the desire
is great. It is almost a year since I enlisted,
does it seem possible we have ^{been} separated so long.
But I think I have been remarkably forward thus far &
as things look I do not think we shall ever be called into
battle. I do hope for your sakes I shall not, for I

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After all the trials we have passed through we
should be better prepared to enjoy the future of
life if we improve the lessons of the past.
All things seem to be quiet in camp. It is very warm
today. Mr Reynolds and Ward started for Keene
Friday. They took my coat. I expect Collins to
start from there Wednesday next. I told them to fix it
and send it back by them. Holbrook from our Com.
starts this afternoon on a furlough of 10 days. There is
a great rush for furloughs. After some of them get back
I will try my luck. I do not feel quite as well to
day as usual. I have only \$1.50 left. I buy some butter
but of late have bought considerable milk. as I could
eat but little else, but I have to pay 10¢ a quart. If I
go home I shall buy a ticket to Worcester which I think
will cost about \$10. it is \$9. to Springfield. If your
Mother can just as well keep those cheeses she had
better until I come on as it will cost me nothing to
get them on there, and the boys are rather short of
money just now. Still I think I can sell them,
what are they worth there? There are considerable

hope for many years of happiness with you;
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Sept 8th. I think you had better not move by
any means. One thing is certain and we the rest of our
I hope you will get entirely well before I come home
I am in camp. Lieut. Phelps of Co.
I am quite sick of Typhoid fever. Capt Combs
has been sick for a day or two. I send you a pa-
per which has some beautiful poetry in it which
I send expressly to you "The confession" is one; the
piece written by Gen. Wallace I think is splendid.
A. Wards letter to the Prince of Wales is good, but
I think I cannot agree with him wholly about
managing wives, he has come to the conclusion
it is the best way to let them do about as they are a
mind to, but I don't; the "certainty" part, I think is
perfectly correct, on the whole there is a good
deal of good reading in the paper; the Edito-
rial of Jeffs message I want you to read.
Eve. The band have just played some Marshall
music. Oh, little does it seem like Sabbath. I have
been on duty all day, and now, no fond loving
wife and daughter to sit beside, and make the clos-
ing hours of day seem like a heaven below.
Instead of prayer and praise and the good old
hymns you use to sing, I hear nothing but cussing
and boistrous laugh, and obscene talk, how sick

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hymns you use to sing, I hear nothing but cussing

and boistrous laugh, and obscene talk, how sick

I am of it, it seems as though I should
be happy if I could only be alone in the
deep forrest and converse with Nature &
Nature's God. Monday morn. Capt Combs
was very sick during the night, his groans
could be heard all over camp, but feels
better this morning. What time does the stage
leave Worcester for Oakham, is there a stage
that leaves for Barre in the morning.
Doct. Thayer came back four days ago, and
is now on duty, he is going to give the soldiers
whiskey and quinine three times a day
to prevent sickness. I can tell them what
will be better, a little less labour and better
rations. It is a little cooler this morn and looks
a little like rain. but just now the sun seems
to be breaking through the clouds. Our Adjt., is
sick also Quartermaster Sgt., Adjt., Clark, and
lots of others. but to day I am feeling pretty
well, I take the best care of myself possible
and hope to escape sickness, it is a hard place
to be sick for you get no good care, and the
Doct will not admit they are sick, until
their case has run so long, that recovery is impo-
sible, one reason is, so many are continually
playing sick to get rid of duty, and the Doct.
has not skill enough to detect the counterfeit.
I am sorry about your horse failing in his
understandings, which gives you to understand
that your rides will be less, that is what I under-
stand by what you wrote. Haynes is most sick
all worn out by labour, unless he can rest, I fear
he will be sick, but the call for men is great &
the heat wilts them down

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[CROSSHATCHED ON UPPER PORTION OF THIRD AND SECOND PAGE BREAK]

I hope Floras eye will get entirely well before I come home, so we can go out with
you in the woods picking
berreys. Give my love to Mother and all the rest of our folks. Adams had another shirt come yesterday.
Capt 8 ch_ I think you had better send mine by mail. as I would like to ware them, I shall not bring my things
home
that I do not want to wear. Mrs. Haynes writes that she thinks of going to Keene again.

[CROSSHATCHED ON P.1]

It is meal
time, and I
must close,
write often,
with much
love to you
all, I am
your
affectionate
Husband
J. Henry
Jenks.