


11-17-1862

## Letter from Thomas S. Armstrong to Editor

Thomas S. Armstrong

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From the 122d Ohio Regiment.  
CAMP AT NEW CREEK, Va. Nov. 17, '62.

DEAR EDITOR:

Here we are at this post. The health of the 122d is good. We have had some sickness, among our men; yea, even our good Col. has been unwell, as also hath Capt. Gary. But now we can say as was said aforetime, "Richard's himself once more." Our regiment has been pursuing the "even tenor of its way" in taking sundry marchings to the Battalion Drift Ground and to Dress Parade. A few days ago we had some excitement about several out of each Company intending to leave us to join the regular cavalry. But it has ended in the idea being abandoned, at least for the present. The monotony of Camp life was relieved by the presence of Mrs. Ball, Mrs. Keamy, Mrs. Granger and Mrs. Cushing, who paid us a visit of several days. God bless the Ladies.

"The ladies, God bless them all,  
From their arms we came  
And, into their arms we—fall."

On Nov. 14th, Col. Ball received an order to the effect that we were going to Cumberland Md. and "to have three days rations cooked."

November 15th, we went to work packing up; soon our arms came. They are long Enfield Rifles. We soon had the Boxes opened and the 122d Regiment had arms in which they could place confidence. About 3 P. M. we started on the Railroad, the 110th following. After a ride which was full of interest, we arrived at Grafton, rather a nice town on the East Branch of the Monongahela. About 5 P. M. off we went again and soon night was upon us, cold and chilly, but we wrapped our blankets about us and made ourselves as comfortable as we could. We tried to sleep, but the cold made it next to impossible.

We crossed the Mountains, and arrived at New Creek about 1 o'clock A. M. Nov. 16th. This Station is near Piedmont, and is 22 miles West of Cumberland, situated on New Creek or North Branch of the Potomac.

About day light we formed and marched out and encamped near the Creek, then pulled up and moved over to the Hill near the 23d Illinois Regiment. Col. Mulligan commander. He commands this post. (He is the hero of Lexington, Missouri, where, after four days hard fighting he surrendered on the 20th day of Sept. 1861.) There are several regiments here the 106th N. Y. 14th and 15th, Va. 110th and 122d O. V. I., 23d Illinois, a battery and some cavalry. The 116th will be here by Tuesday no doubt. — We have a nice Camp. — We are looking for a fight here, two men supposed to be secesh spies or scouts were brought in night before last. They report "Stonewall" Jackson with a large army south east of here — advancing upon this place or Cumberland. It may be only a feint to cover some movement upon Cox near Stanton. But I think there are to be momentous times here. We are just only settled in our new Camp. — The history of this place is unknown to me. It is Mountainous. I think I shall give you a description of the Camp and Fort in my next.

Lieut. Black is officer of the guard tonight. He serves nearly always when we change Camps. I presume it is not on account of his superior integrity and honor (tho' we accord both to him) but because it is his turn! I hope our friends have not forgotten us. We left our homes and pleasant firesides and companions to fight for our beloved land and we hope they will not forget us, but write us often.

Farewell,

T. S. ARMSTRONG.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

November 19, 1862

From the 122d Ohio Regiment.<sup>1</sup>  
Camp at New Creek, Va. Nov. 17, '62

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<sup>1</sup> Zanesville Daily Courier, November 19, 1862. P. 2 - 3

Farewell

T.S. ARMSTRONG