

1-29-1862

## Letter from Sturges S. Sigler to Thomas S. Armstrong

Sturges S. Sigler

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Kwaki 29<sup>th</sup> Jan 1872

Dear A.A.

I saw your Bro "W. J." yesterday who reports you at Camp Liebut - I think you have chosen the better part as did one of old - and I sincerely wish you luck - My business is in such a shape that it is clearly my duty to remain at home or I should have been in the Honors 76<sup>th</sup> at Camp Sherman - My Bro James, was just returned to Green River where his regt is encamped (by) the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ohio - they are in the advance

under Brig Gen O. M. Mitchell  
of Cincinnati Observatory fame -  
He certainly will take  
part in the Battle of  
Bowling Green when it takes  
place - Jim Mate, a good  
soldier - High Private - brave  
and fearless - I really think  
he has pluck - his Captain  
reports him very daring - How  
do you like Soldiering? Is  
there any poetry in it?  
You are fortunate in  
being a sergeant - and I  
woud soon to hear of your  
being a lieutenant - there is our  
sure way to attract the  
attention of your superiors  
and be a long step to  
promotion - i.e. make  
yourself a master - try

to excel in every thing  
you undertake - and make  
yourself perfectly acquainted  
with every detail & movement.  
You can (waste no time)  
at drill - some soldiers pride  
themselves on their ability -  
dexterity or privilege to <sup>remain</sup> ~~remain~~  
in tent or strolling around  
during some drill Parade  
or other duties - they  
are like an idle school  
Boy - when there is a  
position open or a chance  
for promotion they are  
incapable to fill it - and  
the cup passes by - the  
great secret for promotion  
is Capability - in whatever  
station in life - you  
also must take great

Care of your health - the  
plain simple laws of life  
and health must not  
be violated. Carelessness is the  
great cause of Camp illness.  
In regard to morals I need  
say nothing - as you have  
already arisen to the young  
of discretion - but allow me  
to say you cannot be too  
strict in that regard. you  
can come out of the war  
untainted - Will you? is for  
you to decide -

I also wish  
to acknowledge the receipt of  
your letter written at school -  
and should have written you  
long since had I not mislaid  
your address - I am well -

Write soon & believe me your friend  
D. S. Sigler



Sarge Tho. J. Armstrong  
Co B 78<sup>th</sup> Regt O. I. U. S. A  
Camp Gilbert  
(Near) Zanesville Ohio

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copy

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Prof. Gray  
 Prof. H. C. Richardson

January 29, 1862

Addressed to Sargt Thos S. Armstrong

Co B 78th Regt O.V.U.S.A.

Camp Gilbert

(near) Zanesville Ohio

Newark O 29th Jan 1862

Dear T.S.A.

I saw your Bro W.F. yesterday who reports you at Camp Gilbert. I think you have chosen the better part as did one of old -- and I sincerely wish you luck. My business is in such a shape that it is clearly my duty to remain at home or I should have been in the Glorious 76th at Camp Sherman. My Bro. James has just returned to Green River where his Regt is encamped (Ky) the 3d Ohio -- they are in the \_\_\_\_\_ under Brig Gen O.M. Mitchell of Cinti Observatory fame.

He certainly will take part in the Battle of Bowling Green when it takes place. Jim makes a good soldier -- High Private -- brave and fearless. I really think he has \_\_\_\_\_ -- his Captain reports him very daring.

How do you like soldiering? Is there any poetry in it? You are fortunate in being a sergeant and I \_\_\_\_\_ to hear of your being a Lieut. There is one safe way to attract the attention of your superiors and be long step to promotion -- i.e. make yourself a master -- try to excel in everything you undertake and make yourself perfectly acquainted with every detail and movement you can. Waste no time at drill. Some soldiers pride themselves on this ability. Debility(?) or privilege to remain in tent or strolling around during \_\_\_\_\_ Parade or other duties. They are like an idle school boy. When there is a position open or a chance for promotion, they are incapable to fill it. This great \_\_\_\_\_ for promotion is capability in whatever station in life. You must also take great care of your health.

The plain simple laws of life and health must not be violated. \_\_\_\_\_ is the great cause of camp ills. In regard to morals I need not say nothing as you have already arrived to the years of discretion but allow me to say that you cannot be too strict in that regard. You can come out of the war untainted. Will you is for you to decide.

I also wish you to acknowledge the receipt of your letter written at school and should have written you long since had I not misplaced your address.

Write soon & believe me your friend.

S.S. Sigler