

3-30-1862

Letter from Thomas S. Armstrong to Francis P. Porter

Thomas S. Armstrong

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Crumpt's Landing Hardin Co. Tenn.
Sun. March 30th 1862

Dear Friend

Yours dated March 7th I got on the 25th and now I propose to well answer as well as I know how, as you know our chances for writing are slim. Our Co keeps hearty & drill a great deal. I am glad you got my letter as I was afraid the mail did not arrive promptly among the 1st rec^d from the 7th. I will describe to you the Battle that is my experience when I see you. Soldiering is hard - the greatest privation is something to eat that we like - I have stood sleeping in the mud so far but it has done me no good. You say you are afraid I cant stand it. well if I get bad I likely will come home on furlough & recruit my health - Yes! Bob Hanson & I took possession of that Old Leech Shoe maker shop. I should like to know how Wilbur is at this time I have not heard how his disease has terminated. I am in hope that he is well enough to go home by this

time. We have the pleasure of reading
J. W. A. Gillespie's letters. I am glad
Mary & Robert W. enjoy themselves so well
Almeda will get a husband with blue
pants I think from what I saw in a
letter she wrote to your worthy Bro G. W.
(dont show this Frank.) - We will leave
you to imagine how we acted on the morning
of the Battle I wouldnt be good policy for
us to tell how Brave we were -

Henry Axline is at the Hospital at
Mound City & I suppose will go home on
furlough David the Cook is well
& Bakes awful good twisters. Keys
has been very sick but is recovering
slowly he goes around now. & I think
will soon be up. Pity Sam Butler is
married Lets go grasping up there some day! and
see his wife! you will have to do the dancing, tho
I dont want you to dance any more! -

I'm glad you are enjoying yourself. Yes I know
Annie Leox. I like her very well she is very a-
greeable I dont remember whether you asked
me to write to you or not as Capt Gilber
But it was understood I suppose

never mind that that is all
right. Do you think distance weakens
friendship? It shouldn't. If it does
Just wait till we get home then we
will see. Your letter was very encour-
aging to me. Don't forget me. I am
happy to tell you that Geo. W. is real hearty
& stands camp life first rate. We are
lying on the Bank of the Tennessee
River. our tents all up. Our Boys
cook something nice every day such
as cakes. Twisters. My appetite is pretty
good. we have Tea or coffee. Ham
rice Ham side meat potatoes &c
& now they give us flour. The peach trees
are out in full bloom. The birds
of spring singing. When you see the
Newspapers you can find when Gen.
Lewis Wallace's Brigade marches
were in it. So we are in Col Woods
Brigade & Col. May Gen. Lew
Wallace Division Tennessee
River. You know when to
direct your letters

I was surprised that your
Bro John should go.

Will you must write me a
letter containing all the news

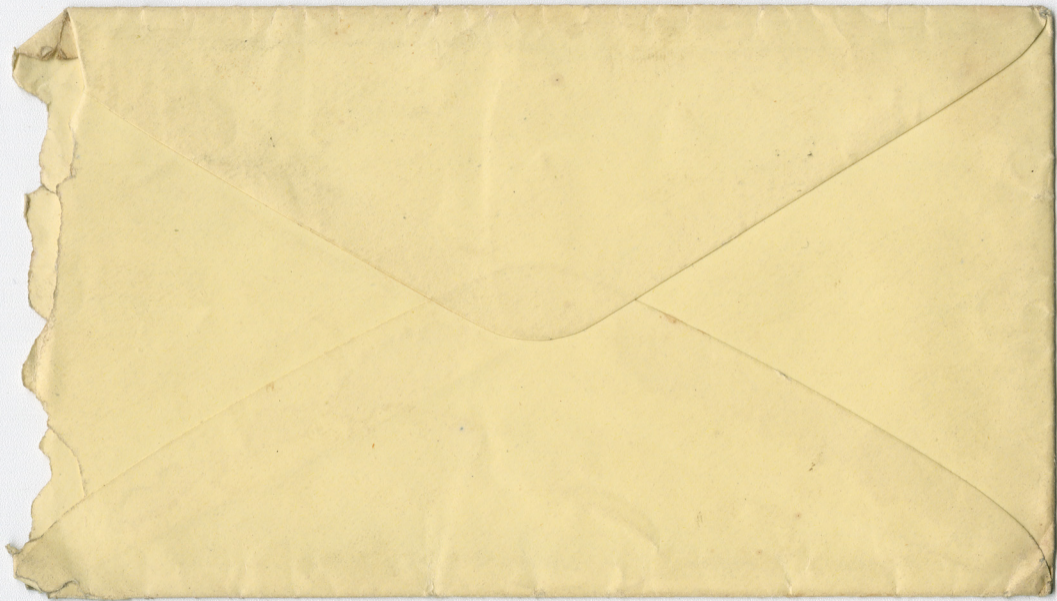
So d By for the present

From your sincere friend

J. S. Armstrong



Miss Frank Porter
West Jamesville
Muskingum Co. Ohio



March 30, 1862

Addressed to Miss Frank P. Porter

West Zanesville

Muskingum Co. Ohio

Crumps Landing Hardin Co. Tenn

Sun March 30th 1862

Dear Friend,

Yours dated March 7th I got on the 25th and now I will answer as well as I know how as you know our chances for writing are slim. Our Co. keeps hearty and drills a great deal. I was glad you got my letter as I was afraid the mails did not arrive promptly among the 1st received for the 78th.

I will describe to you the Battle that is my experience when I see you. Soldiering is hard -- the greatest privation is something to eat that we like. I have stood sleeping in the mud so far but it has done me no good. You say you are afraid I can't stand it. Well if I get bad, I will likely come home on furlough and recruit my health. Yes. Bob Hanson & I took possession of that Old Secesh Shoe Maker shop. I should like to know how Wilbur is at this time. I have not heard how his disease is terminated. I am in hopes that he will be well enough to go home by this time.

We have the pleasure of reading J.W.A. Gillespie's letters. I am glad Mary and Robert W. enjoy themselves so well. Almeda will get a new husband with blue pants. I think from what I saw in a letter she wrote to your worthy Bro G.W. (don't show this Frank).

We will leave you to imagine how we ache on the morning of the battle. It wouldn't be good policy for us to tell you how brave we were. Henry Axline is at the hospital at Mound City & I suppose will go home on furlough. David the Cook is well & bakes awful good twisters. Keys has been very sick but is recovering slowly. He goes around now & I think will soon be up. Pity Sam Butler is married. Lets go _____ up there some day and see his wife. You will have to do the dancing tho I don't want you to dance any more. I am glad you are enjoying yourself. Yes, I know Annie Cox. I like her very well. She is very agreeable. I don't remember whether you asked me to write to you or not at _____ Gilbert, but it was understood. I suppose never mind that that is all right.

Do you think distance weakens friendship? It shouldn't. If it does, just wait till we get home, then we will see. Your letter was very encouraging to me. Don't forget me. I am happy to tell you that Geo W is real hearty & stands camp life first rate. We are lying on the bank of the Tennessee River, our tents all up. Our boys cook something nice every day such as cakes. Twisters. My appetite is pretty good. We have tea and coffee, hominy, rice, ham, side meat, potatoes, etc. and now they give us flour. The peach trees are out in full bloom. The birds of spring singing. When you see the newspapers you can find when Gen Lewis Wallace's Brigade marches. We're in it so

we are in Col Wood's Brigade & Maj Gen Lew Wallace Division. Tennessee Rover. You know where to direct your letters.

I was surprised that your Bro John should go.

Will you write me a letter containing all the news. Good bye for the present.

From your sincere friend

T.S. Armstrong