


12-14-1862

Letter from Thomas S. Armstrong to Francis P. Porter

Thomas S. Armstrong

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Armstrong, Thomas S., "Letter from Thomas S. Armstrong to Francis P. Porter" (1862). *Harvey Collection Letters*. 120.
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Petersburg Hardy County Va.

Sun. Evening Dec. 14th 1862

Dear Frank

I rec^d your letter this week or last
rather Dated Dec 1st And was glad to hear
from you We are all Well except Capn Gary
who has a sore ankle from marching We
started from New Creek the 6th & Marched
here making 46 miles in 2 1/2 days
We arrived here on Monday at noon. I stood
the march very well. I am hearty and well
as I can well be I weight 139 lbs So you
see the Army agrees with me, I eat corn fiddlers
Fresh Beef & hard crackers most of the time We
have a Contraband who does it up Brown
Cooking. He was a slave and belonged to
Col Mason of the Rebel Army I like
Soldiering very well. We are East
of the alleghany Mts. Gen Melroy
Commands this Division the
Great Mt Division it is called

Certainly I expected one from you to the
Question "Did you expect one from me?"
Have you forgotten the former days Am I
a stranger that you distrust me so?

I am glad you like Clinton so well! Then
goes the Bugle for Tattoo sounds like Old
Jermes when Old Charley Cooper in
the 78 used to sound Revolver & Tattoo
I am glad there are so many ladies
in Clinton & "gents are rather a scarce
article now" The gals say "they will be home
soon" "I too would like to see Bro George"
How would you like to see me? Would not
you love to see me too? Well I am coming
out to see you as soon as Burnside
as Burnside Wales the Rebels & Peace
is declared or I will send for you for I
know you dare not refuse What say you
to that?

I am glad George is prospering I was
afraid he would not stand it if
he got sick. I should like to come
out on a furlough & pay you a visit

when he comes home. "You soldiers
haven't any idea how anxious your
friends (and sweethearts) are to hear
from you" Yes I remember "Meda"
Is she as lively as usual? I would
rather see George make a wife of her than
of those "Putnam gals" O! of one of the
But I suppose he has his own ideas
of the women or gals rather & will
chase unto his bosom a wife who
shall be an help meet for him

I like her (Meda) But I don't think
George will ever marry her I think
she would like to be married awful
Bad. Frank would not you like to
be married awful Bad "too. Please answer
by return of mail Well Pardon me
for talking so foolish. I shall send
you my photograph as soon as
I get it from home I am grateful
to you for your promise to pray
for me. I am glad you are going
to send me your Photograph

I gave your respects to Capt
Gary. Well wish to me
Send my Best Respects
to George. My respects to
your Father & Mother
How is Herculah &
John O. P. My love to
All Write soon Direct
your letter to New Creek

Pro or or to

This place

care of Col W H Ball

122 Regt

U.S.A.

From your Friends

Thos Armstrong

Good night to you

Pleasant Dreams!

We dont know when we will
go on here we are by here
Drilley &c



Due 3

Address of letter

J. M. Chandler

Mr. E. L. Conroy,

18th. Dec. 1858

Miss L. P. Porter
Chilton
Dewitt County } Illinois.



December 14, 1862

Addressed to Miss F.P. Porter

Clinton, DeWitt County, Illinois

Petersburg Hardy County Va.

Sun Evening Dec. 14th 1862

Dear Frank

Rec'd your letter this week or last rather dated Dec 1st and was glad to hear from you. We are all well except Capn Gary who has a sore ankle from marching. We started from New Creek the 6th & marched here making 46 miles in 2 1/2 days. We arrived here on Monday at noon. I stood the march very well. I am hearty and well as I can be & weigh 159 lbs. So you see the Army agrees with me. I eat corn fritters, fresh beef & hard crackers most of the time.

We have a Contraband who does it up Brown Cooking. He was a slave and belonged to Col Mason of the Rebel Army.

I take soldiering very well. We are east of the Allegheny Mts. Gen. Milroy commands this Division, the _____ Division it is called.

Certainly I expected one from you to the question "Do you expect one from me?" Have you forgotten the former days. Am I a stranger that you distrust me so? I am glad you like Clinton so well. There goes the bugle for Tattoo. Sounds like old times when Charley Roper in the 78th used to sound reveille & Tattoo. I am glad there are so many ladies in Clinton & "gents are a rather scarce article now." The girls say "They would be home soon. "I too would like to see Bro George." How would you like to see me? Wouldn't you love to see me too? Well, I am coming out to see you as soon as Burnside whales the Rebels & peace is declared or I will send for you for I know you dare not refuse. What say you to that?

I am glad George is prospering. I was afraid he would not stand it if he got sick. I should like to come out on a furlough & pay you a visit when he comes home. "You soldiers haven't any idea how anxious your friends (and sweet hearts) are to hear from you." Yes, remember "Meda." Is she a lively as usual. I would rather see George make a wife of her than of those "Putnam gals." But I suppose he has his own ideas of the women or gals rather & will choose unto his bosom a wife who shall be an help need for him.

I like her (Meda), but I don't think George will ever marry her. I think she would like to be married awful bad. Frank, wouldn't you like to be married "awful bad" too? Please answer by return of mail. Well pardon me for talking so foolish. I shall send you my photograph as soon as I get it from home. I am grateful to you for your promise to pray for me. I am glad you are going to send me your photograph.

I gave your respects to Capn Gary. Well, write to me. Send my best respects to your Father & Mother. How is Huldah and John O.P. My love to all. Write soon. Direct your letter to New Creek or to this place, care of Col W.W. Ball, 122 Regt O.V.I.

From your friend,

Thos S. Armstrong

Good night to you. Pleasant dreams. We don't know when we will go from here, we are lying here drilling, etc.