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## Letter from George W. Porter to Jacob G. Armstrong

George W. Porter

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Mead Eurarlers 19. Brig, Badir. 17th. Army Corps. Ficholowy Mils defit. 814. 1863. Thierd Jacobi I have often wondered why you did not write me, and after con:= ing to the conclusion that I would not hear from you will I wrote you first I have concluded to pen you a few lines, Which I cannot promise to be interesting for I am a poor letter writer, I hear you took a trip to Maine to buy land and got into a little fight, yes I hear you gut wounded, how is this? write and give me all particulars. You was not as lucky as I have been, I have been in five hara halles and The Liege of breksburg, and was nor hurr the least. Shouldi't I be Chankful That my life has been space I have cause to be I assure you,

have don fall in love with it, while Atthough I have enounce many I was at home Seven of my bo, died, hardships & dangers, I am willing among the murber was Esig, Therrard, to andwe anything that may come, (even death) for my beloved country, Sky can e forth and laid their lives Upon The allar of their Country as Of course" I world rather be sufaying Sacrifices. And they were Sacrifices, ely myself with love once at home, But care proudly lay nobler boys never went never until every man in Rebelion into leatter, I feel their loss. They seem against our government has lain as brothers to me, Where are but few of down his arms will I Think of Returning to my hours, I our my life to my no left, Bur we all Stand Ready to meet Country and have lain it aponito whatever may be our fate, ynecessary to follow those dear ones who have your attar, I was at home and Layer four or fine weeks returned a week ago yesterdy before, We left barup Silbert with one had a pleasent hime, Father wisher hundred Stores hearty men for The battle fieed of Louelson. He now have me to write you & lele you he thought liverity men for duty, But Thanks he to Illievis one of the best states in the God men can not die noble a deaths Therion for theep ance wishes you to Than Those brave boys have . In fighting pay him a visit, he will Lake you for the Old d'Irifes & Stars, Theartung around and show you the Country, There are Leveral Splendid Stock Jarmes is in prison & would like to see him. O Mar Clinton for Sall. And at lessonable think I would have some sport, Oh! how priess, you had better go and See the be will hate the Love of being a prisoner, Country, I Think you would as as I I have Lalke a with die on This Subject

He and I have been corresponding, But Phane not hear from him Soired he was captured, I would write him if I Thought I could get a letter to him, of you care get him a letter gin him my Eespects, and lell him I may be in the same fix he is one of These lines, I will close hoping to hear from you soon, Tementer me kin dly to your talker's family of Am Jour friend. De Porter, P. S. Please direct to Dr. Com, Porter elid. E. 187, Bris, Logaris Division. 17th Amy Coaps, Essent corners! 1801 noon losy

## September 8, 1863

Head Quarters 1st Brig 3d Div

17th Army Corps

Vicksburg Miss Sept 8th 1863

Friend Jacob,

I have often wondered why you did not write me and after coming to the conclusion that I would not here from you until I wrote you first, I have concluded to pen you a few lines which I cannot promise to be interesting for I am a poor letter writer. I hear you took a trip to Kansas. Yes I hear you got wounded. How is this? Write and give me all the particulars. You was not as lucky as I have been. I have been in five hard fought battles and the Siege of Vicksburg and was not hurt the least. Shouldn't I be thankful that my life has been spared. I have cause to be I assure you.

Although I have endured many hardships & dangers, I am willing to endure anything that may come (even death) for my beloved country. Of course, I would rather be enjoying myself with loved ones at home, but never until every man in the Rebellion against our government has lain down his arms will I think of returning to my home. I owe my life to my country and have lain it upon its altar.

I was at home and stayed four or five weeks, returned a week ago yesterday, had a pleasant time. Father wished me to write & tell you he thought Illinois one of the best states in the Union for sheep and wishes you to pay him a visit. He will take you around and show you the country. There are several splendid stock farms near Clinton for sale and at reasonable prices. You had better go and see the country. I think you would do as I have done, fall in love with it.

While I was at home, 7 of my Co. dies, among the number was Esq Sherard. They came forth and laid their lives on the altar of their country as sacrifices and they were sacrificed. I can proudly say nobler boys never went into battle. I feel their loss. They seem as brothers to me. There are but few of us left, but we all stand ready to meet whatever may be our fate. If necessary to follow those dear ones who have gone before.

We left Camp Gilbert with one hundred stout hearty men for the battle field of Donelson. We now have twenty-nine for duty, but thanks be to God men cannot die nobler deaths than these brave boys have. In fighting for the Old Stripes & Stars. I hear Sump is in prison. I would like to see him. I think I would have some sport. Oh, he will hate the idea of being a prisoner. I have talked with him on this subject. He and I have been corresponding, but I have not heard from him since he was captured. I would write to him if I thought I could get a letter to him. If you can get him a letter, give him my respects and tell him I may be in the same fix he is one of these times.

I will close hoping to hear from you soon. Remember me kindly to your father's family. I am your friend,

G.W. Porter

Please direct to Lt. G.W. Porter

H.Q. 1st Brig, Logan's Division 17th Army Corps Grant's Army