

11-9-1863

Letter from John Porter to Jacob G. Armstrong

John Porter

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Nov 20th 63. I Last thing letter
and now looking to have it all
well. I. Parker

Clinton Illinois

Sewitt County Nov 9th 63

Dear friend

I received your kind and welcome letter which was perused with great interest. I feel to sympathize with you in your misfortune on your Western tour. I have often thought of the Lawrence tragedy as being one of the most cruel and wanton Raids that I have heard of since the commencement of the war. we would be pleased to see you very much. we are living two miles North East of Clinton if you should come almost any person on the square can tell you where we live we have beautiful weather this fall if you think of bringing Sheep to Illinois you ought to start soon after clipping

I have noticed that those
brought early are in much
finer order than those brought
later in the season. You can start
about the fifteenth or twentieth of
June and drive your ewes and lambs
all together and be here early enough
for them to get fat before the wild
grass gets frosted. I am satisfied
that you could make money as
fast as any reasonable man would
want it. we are all well and
have enjoyed excellent health
since we came to Illinois, my
health is better than it has been
for years, I think this part of
the State very healthy we had
a letter from George a few days
ago he was in good health he
talks of going to Ohio next spring
on a visit. is J. S. Amshong
still in Richmond. I see accounts

of prisoners starving in
Richmond. You spoke of sending
a box of something to J. S. do you
think that he will ever get it.
had you any frost on the 30th
of August last it injured our
corn crop very much we have
plenty of corn but not of so good
a quality the oldest settlers say
that they never knew frost come
so early before. wheat is worth
one dollar corn fifty cents, fat
hogs worth 3.75 per hundred. if you
have any notion of the west come
and see for your self I can show
you some fine farms for sale you
can get a good farm from five to
eight miles from town at from twenty
to twenty five dollars per acre some
lower and some higher. when I came
to Clinton last fall Mr. J. H. Kelley
requested me to look after your

Thank you for the note sent to
along with it

house and that I found a
war widow living in it she
took no care of it the fence was
torn down and burned & suppose
and the fruit trees half of them
destroyed she said that she was told
that I could not but her out finally
I got her out, and rented to a good
man fixed up the fence and will
have it taken care of until Kelly
returns from the Army. I recd no rent
from the widow. Kelly rented the house
last spring a year to a man that
went to the Army when he went away
another soldiers wife moved in with
his wife. the first man deserted and
went to Canada ^{his wife followed him} this is the way that
the came in the house Kelly got
no rent either I rented on the
first of June last for 3.50 p month
This was the best that I could do
expecting to hear from you soon I must
come to a close give my respects to
the family
L. B. Armstrong John Porter

November 9, 1863

Clinton, Illinois
DeWitt County Nov 9th 63

Dear Friend (J.G. Armstrong)

I received your kind and welcome letter which was perused with great interest. I feel to sympathize with you in your misfortune on your western tour. I have often thought of the Lawrence tragedy as being one of the most cruel and wonton raids that I have heard of since the commencement of the war. We would be pleased to see you very much. We are living two miles North East of Clinton, if you should come almost any person on the square can tell you where we live. We have beautiful weather this fall if you think of bringing sheep to Illinois you ought to start soon after clipping. I have noticed that those brought early are in much finer order than those brought later in the season. You can start about the fifteenth or twentieth of June and drive your ewes and lambs altogether and be here early enough for the to get fat before the wild grape gets frosted. I am satisfied that you could make money as fast as any reasonable man would want it. We are all well and have enjoyed excellent health since we came to Illinois. My health is better than it has been for years. I think this part of the state very healthy. We had a letter from George a few days ago; he was in good health, he talks of going to Ohio next spring on a visit. Is T.S. Armstrong still in Richmond. I see accounts of prisoners starving in Richmond. You spoke of sending a box of something to T.S., do you think he will ever get it. Had you any frost on the 30th of August last, it injured our corn crop very much, we have plenty of corn but not of so good quality. The oldest settlers say that they never knew frost came so early before. Wheat is worth one dollar, corn fifty cents, fat hogs worth 3.75 per hundred. If you have any notion of the west come and see for your self. I can show you some fine farms for sale. You can get a good farm from five to eight miles from town at from twenty to twenty five dollars per acre. Some lower and some higher. When I came to Clinton last fall, Mr. J.J. Kelley requested me to look after your house and that I found a war widow living in it. She took no care of it. The fence was torn down and burned I suppose and the fruit trees, half of them destroyed. She said that she was told that I could not _____ her out finely. I got her out and rented to a good man taken care of until Kelley returns from the Army. I rec'd no rent from the widow. Kelley rented the house last spring a year to a man that went when he went away. Another soldier's wife moved in with his wife. The first man deserted and went to Canada, his wife followed him. This is the way he came in the house Kelley got no rent either. I rented on the first of June last for 3.50 per month. This was the best that I could do. Expecting to hear from you soon I must come to a close. Give my respects to the family

J.G. Armstrong

John Porter

Frank says she will write to Mary immediately.

Nov 20th 63 I am well and now hasten to mail this last letter. J. Porter