

1-4-1864

Letter from Dick to Jacob G. Armstrong

Dick

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Jan 4th 1864

Brother J. G. A.

With your letter before me, I attempt writing you a line, after a long silence I was just thinking about taking your name off the list of correspondents, when to my surprise I received a letter was glad to hear of your safe arrival home. Heard of your misfortune while in Kansas Had not heard of you since I would like to have seen you at Monmouth, I think I would have enjoyed your company very much - I have had but few of my old Ohio friends

to visit me yet. Perhaps they
don't think enough of me to
call on me. I am still pecking
away at my old trade. Have
been teaching in one place
since I came west. have 2 1/2
months to teach yet - then I
think I will make a change
of some kind - don't know what
it will be yet - I have been
thinking some of going South.
If I can get a good situation
I will go - This is leap year
I am a little afraid the ladies
will run off with me - I am
not married yet, and don't
expect to be soon, I am having
a good time here - plenty of
very nice ladies to talk with -
I had vacation last week - spent
part of the time in Mercer Co
16 miles north of Monmouth

Spent New Year's night with a
Miss Graham - had a very pleasant
time. We had a tremendous
storm here the last day of the
old year. I have never seen any
thing to equal it, - the wind blew
a perfect hurricane all day
Thursday and Thursday night -
Thermometer stood at 32 degrees
below zero. All the north and south
roads blockaded with snow -
some places 12 ft deep - staves
about 6 ft deep - East and west
roads are bare - I walked 6 miles
last Sat on snow-drift from
6 to 7 ft deep - got one ear, my
nose, and three of my toes frozen
Thermometer stood 21 degrees below
zero last Sat, it is a little warmer
to day - snowing rapidly - I have
experienced nearly enough of cold
in Ill. Beasts are perishing with

cold, chickens, hogs, calves
and cows froze to death last Friday
What kind of weather have you
had in Ohio. Are you having
much snow? What are you all
doing in Old Muskingum?

How do the ladies flourish?

Are there any getting married?

Are there any that want to marry?

What say you of the Union?

I think it is all right - I think
the rebels are about played out -

Who will be the next president?

Lincoln is the longest president
that has ever taken the chair,

and I think when his time is
out we will want him longer

What think you? The draft

has not come off here yet, I am
looking for it daily, - will go if

drafted - Warren Co lacks too

so I will stand a good chance
yet. Write soon as you can and

give me all the news, good, bad
and indifferent - Give my best regards

to all my friends you chance to meet
Good bye. Your friend Dick

January 4, 1864

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Brother J.G.A.

With your letter before me, I attempt writing you a line. After a long silence I was just thinking about taking your name off the list of correspondents when to my surprise I received a letter. Was glad to hear of your safe arrival home. Heard of your misfortune while in Kansas. Had not heard of you since. I would like to have seen you at Monmouths. I think I would have enjoyed your company very much. I have had but few of my old Ohio friends to visit me yet. Perhaps they don't think enough of me to call on me.

I am still pecking away at my old trade. Have been teaching in one place since I came west. Have 2 ½ months to teach yet. Then I think I will make a change of some kind, don't know what it will be yet. I have been thinking some of going South. If I can get a good situation, I will go.

This is leap year. I am a little afraid the ladies will run off with me. I am not married yet, and don't expect to be soon. I am having a good time here, plenty of very nice ladies to talk with. I had a vacation last week, spent part of the time in Mercer Co., 16 miles north of the Monmouths. Spent New Year's night with a Miss Graham, had a very pleasant time.

We had a tremendous storm here for the last day of the old year. I have never seen anything to equal it. The wind blew a perfect hurricane all day Thursday and Thursday night. Thermometer stood at 33 degrees below zero. All the north and south roads blockaded with snow. Some places 12 feet deep. East and west, roads are bare. I walked 6 miles last Sat on snow drift from 6 to 7 feet deep. Got one ear, my nose, and three of my toes frozen. Thermometer stood at 21 degrees below zero last Sat. It is a little warmer today, snowing rapidly. I have experienced nearly enough of cold in Ill. Beasts are perishing with cold, chickens, hogs, calves and cows frozen to death last Friday. What kind of weather have you had in Ohio? Are you having much snow?

What are you doing in old Muskingum? How do the ladies flourish? Are there any getting married? Are there any that want to marry?

What say you of the Union? I think it is all right. I think the rebels are about played out. Who will be the next president? Lincoln is the longest president that has ever taken the chair and I think when his time is out we will want him longer. What think you?

The draft has not come off here yet. I am looking for it daily, will go if drafted. Warren Colacks 100 so I will stand a good chance yet. Write soon as you can and give me all the news, good, bad, and indifferent. Give my regards to all my friends you chance to meet. Good bye

Your friend

Dick