2-5-1863

Letter from Thomas S. Armstrong to Jacob G. Armstrong

Thomas S. Armstrong

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Winchester, Virginia

Feb. 5th, 1863

Dear Bee,

I find myself compelled to write to you as I received your letter this evening. Jeff, McMullen, the orderly, brought it up. He always brings Co. I's mail up to us. I am well and hearty. Powell has just sounded off here about nine o'clock P.M.

On the evening of the 3rd, we got two boxes of 2 barrels of 25 lbs. of butter, 15 cts. per lb. 4 bushels of peaches, 2 pans full of crackers, and cake made by my mother. I presume we are feasting on "Hare Lack" and butter. We are doing finely. Great Black is really a first class fellow. He is a jolly good hearted fellow. I hope he holds the position he holds. I am looking forward most of
The line now there was a story of love from Col. J. D. Emboden, about an idea you will see the news in the papers tomorrow. It was in the Baltimore American this morning. Yes, I do look quite an interest in your welfare in reference to your pack, not pack, most pack or Miss Bushel. Do you need a pack measure to measure your oats and other things very useful in this life. Other famous oven fell in and is spoiled. Hence, we will have to get our feet cleaned some other way. Than by treading on the dough we will have to wash them in the old way.

I saw a little letter in the Commercial a day from the 76th U.S. They were at Arkansas Post Battle. First Col. W. B. Woods was wounded. Capt. Gurner was killed of the 34.

I imagine that I see Father fixing up those boxes of goods at the ranch. Did you even tramp dough for exercise? They were started Jan. 30th, reached Feb. 3rd. Making the trip in 34-30 = 4 days.

Aint that quick all was safe got everything in good order.

2 3/4 bushels at 15 cts. $4.20
2 Pcs. Peaches (Dundie) $1.00
2 P's Light cakes. $1.00
3 apples.

Freight.
John Coch $6.20

The rest of the boys are well. Please tell those who wish to pay express charges my clothing begins to look shabby.

Tell Mary I had not cost me much for clothes. Tell May to see Mr. France, and tell him he did write for...
Me I want him to do well By her I give her a position in the Gainesville Schools for she will make a good teacher.

John Potts is going to move into the county. But his P.O. address is Clinton Dewitt Co Illinois. I live in expic.

Lub of seeing you soon. But I cant tell you soon.

On the 2nd of Feb I got a hub I washed and I went into our coote house. Well Caldwell had water that I put on all my socks thents & drawers but what I have on I washed then I rinsed them out and put them in the 2nd water then hung them up in the lint to dry. The next day I got to work and claimed 8 doz.

But you made it up the col came out while I was at work & he tells me he would lend me this do. I claim near all the yarn another lent me. Pm well Good Bye.

My love to all.

S. J. Armstrong
February 5, 1863

Winchester Virginia

Feb 5th 1863

Dear Bro

I find myself compelled to write to you as I received your letter this evening. Jeff McMillen the Orderly Sergt brought it up. He always brings Co. I's mail up to us. I am well & hearty. Tattoo has just sounded of ______ hence after nine o'clock P.M.

On the evening of the 3rd we got that box of or barrel or 2 barrels of 28 lbs of butter 15 cts per lb, _______ peaches, 2 pans full of crackers, cakes, made by mother. I presume we are feasting on "hard tack" and butter. We are doing finely. Lt Black is really a first class fellow. He is a jolly, good hearted fellow and honors the position he holds.

I am studying tactics most of the time now. There was a flag of truce from Col J.D. Imboden, Rebel, to Gen Milroy. You will see the acct in the Papers soon. It was in the Baltimore American this morning.

Yes I do take quite an interest in your welfare. In reference to your peck, more peck, most peck, or Miss Bushel, Yes you need a peck measure to measure your oats and other things very useful in this life.

O that famous oven fell in and is spoiled. Hence we will have to get our feet cleaned some other way than by treading through the dough. We will have to wash them in the old way.

I saw a letter in the Commercial today from the 76 O.V.I They were at Arkansas Past Battle. Lieut Col Wm B Woods was wounded. Capn Lement was killed of Co. A.

I imagine thus. I see father fixing up those boxes of goods at Norwich. Did you ever tramp dough for exercise. They were started Jan 30 & reed Feb 3 making the trip in 34 - 30 = 4 days. Ain't that quick all was safe. I got everything in good order.

28 lbs butter at 15 cts $4.20

2 pecks peaches (dried) $1.00

2 pans light cakes $0.00

3 apples $0.00

$5.20

Freight $1.00

Total cost $6.20
The rest of the boys are well pleased. Tell those who want to write to prepay express charges. My clothing begins to look shabby. It hadn't cost me much for clothes. Tell Mary to see Mr. Framer & tell him he did well for me. I want him to do well by her & give her a position in the Zanesville schools for she will make a good teacher.

John Porter is going to move into the country but his P. Office address is Clinton DeWitt Co. Illinois. I live in expectation of seeing you soon. But I cannot tell how soon.

On the second of Feb, I got a tub & washboard & went into our cook house. Well Caldwell has water hot. I put in all by socks, shirts, drawers but what I had on and washed them & rinsed them out put them in the 2nd water then hung them up in the tent to dry; next day I got to work & darned 8 socks which were more holy than righteous. I tell you I did it up. The Col came over as I was at work & he told me he would send me his to darn. I darned nearly all the yarn mother sent me.

I am well. Good Bye.

My love to all

T.S. Armstrong