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Letter from Jacob G. Armstrong to W.G. Spencer

Jacob G. Armstrong

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Norwich Muskingum Con Feb 5 th A.D. 1863. M. J. S. Spencer & Family Dear friends. your kind and interesting message was duly received and after the lapse of Several weeks of Seat myself to reply to it Pleas pardon delayall Thank you for the trouble you took of procuring a Minature of Grand mother Gibson for us Trust we may be able to do you a favor in return. We are all well and enjoying our selbes as best We can under existing circumstances You inquired about Thomas of. in your letter

He got Home last May was I don't believe there will be ung discharged from the sirvice he more fighting in the East this Winter As the Commanders are changedafter he got home he quite recovered his health and got very What think you of the change? hearty - After he got well he For my part of liked Burnsid very went to Tribnam to School and much but Hooker is a good man while there got in the notion of It may all be right I think if going into the army again Burnside had had his own May He received a Dientenancy in the in crossing The Bappapanock it would 122 nd Roegh Ohio Tolunteers it's head have been a success instead of a disaster quarters was at zamesville while recrutings Some times I feel encouraged and at others The 122 has been in Sirvice 5 or 6 months they rather dishartened There is no doubt are at Minchester Va. they think they the Lard will sustain the right and of will winter there- They have not been course that is the North - I hope the in any Battle yet J. S. has not been line will soon come that Beach may Sick a day since he went out the last be restoreed and every Bondman will time: When he came home last Many be free and I think this war will his weight was 118 lbs now it is 165 lbs net clos till this is accomplished I quite an increase the says he is enjoyin believe the Loard has let my himself first rate as long as it shall belie the Loard has let Slavery exist

We are in the same burness that we was when you were at our house We are tryin to do our part in raisy Wool to Supply the deficiency of Cotton we thad nearly 2000 les last July and expect to have about the Same this comming July the Sheep business has been very good this last fall Don't you think the prespect of wool is going to be high next. Shearing? We have had any amount of Snow and rain the last two mon Back but very little sleighing There is the Best prospect of sleighing now there has been it commence last night and still is mowing it is some it to 8 in deep and has an excellent foundation The family foin me in Sendy there Best regards to anche James & family and you and your family- write Seon yours Bespectfully J.G. Armstrong

February 5, 1863

Norwich Muskingum Co

Feb 5th A.D. 1863

Mr. W.G. Spencer & Family

Dear Friends.

Your kind and interesting message was duly received and after the lapse of several weeks I seat myself to reply to it. Please pardon delay.

We as a family all Thank you for the trouble you took of procuring a Miniature of Grandmother Gibson for us. Trust we may be able to do a favor in return. We are all well and enjoying our selves as best we can under existing circumstances. You inquired about Thomas S. in your letter

He got home last May, discharged from the service; after he got home he quite recovered his health and got very hearty -- After he got well, he went to Putnam to school and while there got the notion of going into the army again. He received a Lieutenancy in the 122nd Regt Ohio Volunteers, it's headquarters was at Zanesville while recruiting. The 122 has been in service 5 or 6 months; they are at Winchester Va. they think they shall winter there -- They have not been in any battle yet. T.S. has not been sick a day since he went out the last time -- When he came home last May his weight was 118 lbs now it is 165 lbs quite an increase. He says he is enjoying himself first rate.

I don't believe there will be any more fighting in the East this winter as the commanders are changed -- What do you think of the changes? For my part, I liked Burnside very much but Hooker is a good man. It may be all right. I think if Burnside had his own way in crossing the Rappahannock, it would have been a success instead of a disaster. Sometimes I feel encouraged and at others rather disheartened. There is no doubt the Lord will sustain the right and of course that is the North -- I hope the time will soon come that Peace may be restored and every Bondman will be free and I think this war will not close till this is accomplished. I believe the Lord has let slavery exist as long as it shall.

We are in the same business that we was when you were at our house. We are trying to do our part in raising wool to supply the deficiency of cotton. We had nearly 2000 lbs last July and expect to have about the same this coming July. The sheep business has been very good this last fall -- Don't you think the prospect of wool is going to be high next shearing? We have had any amount of snow and rain the last two months Back but very little sleighing. There is the best chance of sleighing now there has been it commenced last night and still is snowing. It is something re 8 in. deep and has an excellent foundation.

The family joins me in sending there Best regards to Uncle James & family and you and your family. Write soon.

Yours respectfully,

J.G. Armstrong