Letter from R.A. McGee to Jacob G. Armstrong

R.A. McGee

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/harvey-letters

Part of the Military History Commons, Social History Commons, and the United States History Commons

Recommended Citation

https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/harvey-letters/239

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Harvey Letters (All) at Digital Commons @ OWU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Harvey Collection Letters by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ OWU. For more information, please contact earutigl@owu.edu.
Aug 10th, 1863.

Comanche, W. Co. Ida.

Dear Friend,

I received yours of the 27th inst., and am glad to hear from you once more. It had been so long since I heard from you, I thought that you had captured me. The people are telling me that my father-in-law is in the Penitentiary at Columbus. Is that so? If it is, I will call and see him as I go home. I am still enjoying myself finely, got through harvesting a few days since—harvested 14 days—liked it very well. It required a little more bodily exertion than teaching. My school closed the 20th of July. Spent the 4th in Burlington, Iowia. had a very pleasant time. I am going to Iowa next week to spend a week or two visiting. And don't know what I will do then—perhaps stay here and teach another term, as they are anxious I should do so. I will decide in a few
days. When you come out last you must be sure and call on Mr. A. B. Cole. If you come to Monmouth inquiry for J. J. Clarke’s almost any person can tell you where he lives if not I will give you directions. It is 6 miles west and 1/4 mile north of Monmouth if I knew what time you were coming. I would meet you in Monmouth. You ought to be out here a little while and see what Ladies the time I think is not far distant that Baladei speaks of: “When seven women shall take hold of one man”. Almost all the young men have gone to war, and it is now with the Ladies who still get their remaining at home.

We are having a great time bad with Copperheads I have often heard it said, that they are blind in days. I think their time is nearly over and I made a resolution some time that I would take the first Copperhead at butternut breastpin that I would pleased by any one. I had the satisfaction of taking one last week. I met with a young man who was wearing a butternut present as I am in a hurry find breastpin I stepped up to him and told him in the last place the road from Monmouth to J. J. Clarke’s.

to take it off. I won’t do it, was the answer if you don’t I will. You will be stronger than me and if I do, was the answer. I could not stand it any longer. I caught him by the collar and demanded the pin. At that instant he clinched me. I threw him down so quick he hardly knew himself. I held him there till I took the butternut off him. I then gave him my boot with my foot in it, and told him if ever I catch him with another pin he would not come off as safe as he did this time. I am expecting them to double team on me some day and try to whip me but they can only try.

I met with Copperhead Ladies sometimes. I am afraid of being bitten with them it is not often that I come in contact with pin but still they are some. I am going to have a Picnic Wednesday of this week wish you and had to hard and enjoyment. I have to go this afternoon and prepare a place in the Grove. Do you still hard to excise for with a young man who was wearing a butternut the present as I am in a hurry find breastpin I stepped up to him and told him on the west place the road from Monmouth to J. J. Clarke’s.
Write soon. Give my respects to all my old friends and also young friends, these lines find me enjoying good health. God bless.

O. C. Armstrong
August 10, 1863

Aug 10th, 1863
Monmouth ___ Co. Ill

Dear Friend,

I received of the 27th inst in due time. Was glad to hear from you once more. It had been so long since I heard from you. I thought Morgan had captured you. The people are telling that my father-in-law is in the Penitentiary at Columbus. Is that so? If it is I will call and see him as I go home. I am still enjoying myself finely – got through harvesting a few days since – harvested 14 days – liked it very well. It requires a little more bodily exertion than teaching. My school closed the 2nd of July. Spent the 4th in Burlington, Iowa had a very pleasant time. I will decide in a few days. When you come out you must be sure to call on R.A. McGee. If you come to Monmouth inquire for J.L. Clarks almost any person can tell you where he lives, if not I will give you directions, it is 6 miles west and 1 mile north of Monmouth. If I knew what time you were coming, I would meet you in Monmouth. You ought to be out here a little while and see what Ladies. This time I think is not far distant that Balachi speaks of “when seven women take hold of one man.” Almost all the young men have gone to war, and it is now with the Ladies who will get those remaining at home. We are having a great time here with “Copperheads.” I have often heard it said that they are blind in dog days. I think their time is nearly over. I made a resolve some time since that I would take the first Copperhead Butternut breast pin that I would see worn by any one. I had the satisfaction of taking one last week. I met with a young man who was wearing a butternut breast pin. I stepped up to him and told him to take it off. I won’t do it the answer. If you don’t I will. You will be stronger than me if you do was the answer. I could not stand it any longer. I caught him by the collar and demanded the pin. At this instant he clinched me. I threw him so quickly he hardly knew himself. I held him there till I took the butternut off him. I then gave him my boot with my foot in it and told him if ever I caught him with another on he would not come off as safe as he did this time. I am expecting them to doubleteem on me some day and try to whip me but they can only try. I meet with “Copperhead” Ladies sometimes. I am afraid of being ________ with them. It is not often that I come in contact with such but still there are some. I am going to have a Pic-nic Wednesday of this week. Wish you were here to share our enjoyment. I have to go this afternoon and prepare a place in the Grove. So you will have to excuse for the present as I am in a hurry. Find on the road on the next page the road from Monmouth to J.L. Clarks. Write soon. Give my respects to all my old friends and also young friends. These lines have me enjoying good health. Good bye.

R.A. McGee