

War Work Council

ARMY AND NAVY

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

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"With the Colors"

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 1917.

My Dear Mother & Dad,

I have been looking forward to a letter from you but not one has arrived. It might be hard to write very often but it would almost be like home if you and Dad would write every day take turns one, one day, one another as we are a good distance from home.

The weather down here has been ideal extremely cold at night and cool dry weather during the day. Last night we had a wonderful sunset followed by a beautiful sky. It was intensely cold and I woke up five or six times to rub my legs and feet to renew the circulation. That is the reason why I asked you for the robe as it will be just the thing for bedtime. As soon as I landed and when the nights were so cold I asked for a sweater. We are unable anymore to buy them from the Government as the Department Stores and Military clothing companies furnish them as cheap as we can buy them. You spoke about getting one for me it is the best thing you can do as they are just the thing, they can sell them at Wanamakers or Abelbrims 5th & Market, about the best place. Be sure and get drab color and one that buttons clear to the chin. We are not allowed except in our tents to wear colored sweaters. I have been unable to go in town because I did not have a sweater so have turned in early each night. I suppose you would say use my coat but it is inferior in warmth and is a hideous match to my trousers.

This morning is payday and there is riot in Camp. Yesterday I took a long walk several miles into the woods believe me they are wonderful. So many different trees than what I have been used to looking at. Tell Aunt Gessie I will be unable to get her pine needles as the trees are nearly all Hemlock with thick branches and lones needles which are about six inches long. Coming back a different way I met a typical southern farmer who sold me some pears, and later on his wife is going to make southern ginger bread 20¢ a cake. Size unknown. I had a drink from his well and then came, back to camp.

About the eating I must say so far it has been miserable. This morning only had one egg two slices (of) bread and a cup (of) coffee. I could of eaten about six of the size we had. I also was first in line,

The stuff is cooked pretty good but not enough of it. Maybe later on we will get more.

In Augusta meals are gold mines a chicken dinner costing \$2.00 and over the smallest beef steak dinner no desert \$1.00, so I have been filling up on crackers which is very expensive. I dont know why, but even the Farmers are socking the ears off of the Boys in uniform. Everything here even Philadelphia cakes are double price, those which I emember in Philadelphia.

We are suppose to have this afternnoon and evening off till 10.30. I am going in town and get a (meal) if it costs me \$5.00. If that don't satisfy (I) will fill up on Hurshey Bars.

I am going to close my letter because I want you to get it as soon as possible and it will go on our 11 o'clock collection.

Please give my address to Mr. Ryle (He is going to send me some cigars and believe me I don't know what a good cigar looks like since I left Philadelphia. Down here they are no good at all even 10¢ ones) I am going to write him real soon. Please pass my address around.

Now Mother dear thanking you for anything you might send me from home and hoping all ~~are~~ well, I am

Your loving Son,  
Howard

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