

First Pennsylvania Infantry

War Work Council  
ARMY AND NAVY

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

"With the Colors."

Sept. 30th, 1917.

My Dear Mother and Dad;

Saturday morning about 11.45 I was sitting in my tent and who should walk in but Mr. De Bee. Of course I was pleased to see him, especially since I new he had news direct from home. It pleased me so much to think he was ind enough to stop home, and then to bring my things down. I am glad to hear both you and Dad are well and cheerful, but I know how much you miss me even though you do present a happy cheerful face to the world, inside you are sad. Please for my sake don't worry about me as I am well and happy, besides leading a good straight clean life. Every night I am in bed before ten o'clock, sometimes at 8.30 and up at 5.15 in the morning.

Now as to the sweater. If I was to tell you how much I like it, I would have to come to Philadelphia grab both you and Dad in my arms and kiss you. That would be my proof. It passes all my ghoughts and if I am cold this winter it won't be the fault of the sweater. The wrist warmers Mrs. Wonder, Harry's Aunt gave me just match. It is exactly the kind set down in regulation and I surely will be proud to wear it. The spool of cotton, pencil and flashlight is surely useful and, something I am using all the time.

While Mr. DeBee was talking to me who should walk in but George Mathiew (I think that is his name) Mary Michael's beau. I introduced them and we all had a pleasant home talk. George is connected with the 6th Keg. Hospital which is going to be broken up. They both left soon and wished to be remembered to you. Yesterday it poured all day except about 3 hours in the afternoon. After supper, the rain came down in sheets. We sent one of the boys to the company store for candy and soft drinks, then he stopped down for the mail. I have been looking forward to receiving your package and it arrived at the best time possible when ~~xx~~ we were all hungry. When he came back he had a letter from you and Dad with my new address on it. The package of eats. A box of candy from Aunt Helen and Uncle Will and a letter from Dorothy Dunn. Some Mail! I cannot tell you how I appreciated the food stuffs. Somebody in the tent had been sent some peanut butter and jelly. With the crackers and wafers we made sandwiches. Earlier in the evening I had treated to cigars, so I am going to smoke your Phila., cigars all b ye my lonesome. There are seven in my tent, a dandy happy bunch and believe me we had some feed. I did not over feed myself or drink any pop, as I am taking good care of my stomach as you said.



Mother you certainly must be a mind reader. I needed very very much both kinds of soap and tooth brush. If you will send me a tube of tooth paste in about a week I will be O.K. Please send Colgates Ribbon Dental Cream, as it does not get hard or sour out in the air.

I have received a box of Candy from Aunt Helen and a letter with a Dollar from Aunt Florie. I also, last week, received a bundle of papers from Grandman, and several letters from Mr. Anderson and girl friends.

Please tell Willie that he is a gold brick for donating those cigars and it was very kind of you to send them to me. They are fine and fresh and not even scratched.

I remember Charles Hibbs and if I run across him will certainly tell him about Sister.

Today we had to sign the Muster Roll, as I guess we will be paid about the 6th of October. Today was an ideal day and I wanted to go to church, but owing to the Mustering of the company I missed church. Today I have about 8 letters to answer all of which I received within two days, so I will be kept pretty busy.

I had intended to send Aunt Jessie a postal but have delayed mailing it. It will not be necessary to send my underwear down as yet, as I want to use up my underwear which I have here.

As I am writing here, some of the boys are reading, writing home and one boy is shaving another fellows head. If you could see some of the things which they do in camp you would split your sides laughing.

I believe I have done justice to your letters in my answer and if there is anything which you want to know I will try and meet it. As soon as I get in town I am going to be weighed. I hope I have at least a pound or to over my old weight.

Now good bye and write soon. Tell Grandman as soon as I get my mail down I will write her another letters.

With love,  
Howard.

P. S. Kiss Pinkie on the bald spot for me.

If you have a couple of stray jars of jelly, anykind. I certainly could use it as we get no butter and we often buy it in town. I also forgot to tell you that the Poem was beautiful but no better than the words Dad has always said to me.

Harry Hornickel showed me the clipping and it was this letter I was going to give you the date and paper where to get it.

Howard.