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Camp near Galveston Jan 2, 1863

Dearest Friend

I received a letter from you at last it surprised me very much when I opened it and found it was from you for I came to the conclusion you had forgotten your old friend for your letter was dated Feb the 3 so it is just a month old to day but I tell you it was as interesting to me as though it was only 2 days old it has been a long time since I have written to you but I hope it will never be so long between times a gain you must excuse me for not writing sooner for the last letter I wrote I never ^{got} any answer to it so I thought I would not write a gain until I would find out what was wrong but I find your letters was lost so I cant blame you for not writing but I am sorry that I did not write to you long a go well I guess I have said enough about this so I will try and tell you how we are getting a long well we are trying to get a long the best we can and I tell you that is poor a nough the troops all seem to be discouraged since the late battle at Fredricksburgh I tell you they hadent better overtake them and push back to Alexandria or they will all desert and I dont see what use

Government is a doing I should think they could
see something there is one thing shure that is we
can never whip the South by fighting. neither can we
settle this war by fighting well I wont say much
about the war for I am sick and tired of the
luck we have had we are not any nearer Richmond
now than we was 16 month ago and look at
the battles we have fought and the men we
have lost I tell you it is not very encouraging
for us to fight and get licked every time yesterday
was new years and I tell you it was a dry one we
couldnt get even a cigar to smoke after eating
our hard tack and coffee I am in the company now
but I have not get able for duty yet but I am getting
better pretty fast Wilton and I was over to the
14th Regt and spent part of a day with Peter Shannon
and the rest of the boys there is a Review to day
our Regt has just gone out we was mustered out
for pay the last day of Dec probably we will get it in
the course of 2 or 3 weeks if we dont get it then the
word only knowes when we will get it there is
some talk of us moving I wish they would move
out of here for it is a very sickly place and wood
and water is very unhandy poor Papper had to die
at last it must of went hard with his family
to part with him so soon after he got home
but we have all got to die some time sooner or
later I should of liked very well to of spent

Christmass and new year in Reynolds hill
but it was impossible for me to do so I do wish
this cruel war was over so we could all return
to our homes Gilton is well he is still clerking
for the aft yet the weather is very fine now but
a little cold nights well I have told you a bout all
I can think of so I will be oblig'd to bring my short
letter to a close hoping to hear from you soon
I think the letters will come now without getting
lost you will please remember me to Thomas and
all the children also give my kind respects to your
mother as her and I used to have some big old times
milking the cows I wish I could write a letter like
you then I could fill this sheet and not half try
but I can't so I will haft to close by bidding
you once more a kind adieu and as ever remain
your affectionate friend till death

J. Joseph J. Green

To Mrs Juliana Reynolds

P. I please excuse all mistakes
and bad writing

Good By please write soon
to your friend J.

Letter from Joseph F. Green to Juliana Reynolds, January 2, 1863

Camp near Falmouth Jan 2th 1863

Dearest Friend,

I received a letter from you at last. It Surprised me very much when I opened it and found it was from you for I came to the conclusion you had forgotten your old friend Jo. Your letter was dated Nov the 3rd [sic] So it is just a month old to day but I tell you it was as interesting to me as though it was onley 2 days old. It has been a long time Since I have written to you but I hope it will never be so long between times a gan. You must excuse me for not writing Sooner for the las[t] letter I wrote I never got any answer to it So I thought I would not write a gan untill I would find out what was wrong. But I find your letters was lost So I cant blame you for not writing but I am Sorry that I did not write to you long a go. Well I guess I have Said a nough a bout this So I will try and tell you how we arr getting a long.

Well we are trying to get a long the best we can and I tell you that is poor a nough. The troops all Seem to be discouraged Since the last battle at Fredericksburgh. I tell you they hadent better ever take this army back to Alexandria or they will all dirsert and go home. I dont see what our

government is a doing. I Should think they could See Something. There is one thing Shure that is we can never whip the South by fighting neither can we Settle this war by fighting. Well I wont Say much a bout the war for I am sick and tiard of the luck we have had. We are not any nearer Richmond now than we was 16 month a go and look at the battles we have fought and the men we have lost. I tell you it is not very encourageing for us to fight and get licked evry time.

Yesterday was newyears and I tell you it was a dry one. We couldent get even a cigar to smoke after eating our hard tack and coffee. I am in the company now but I have not got able for duty yet but I am getting better pretty fast. Tilton and me was over to the 148

Regt and Spent part of a day with Peter Shannon and the rest of the boys. There is a review to day out Regt has just gon[e] out. We was mustered out for pay the last day of Dec probibly we will get it in the course of 2 or 3 weeks. If we dont get it then the lord only knows when we will get it. There is Some talk of us mooving. I wish they would moove out of hear for it is a very Sickly place and wood and water is very unhandy. Poor Tapper had to die at last. It must of went hard with his family to part with him So Soon after he got home but we have all got to die some time sooner or later. I should have liked very well to of Spent Christmass and new year in Reynoldsville but it was imposible for me to do so. I do wish this cruel war was over So we could all return to our homes. Tilton is well he is Still clerking for the ajt yet. The weather is very fine now but a little cold nights. Well I have told you a bout all I can think of So I will be oblige to bring my Short letter to a close hoping to hear from you Soon. I think the letters will come now without getting lost. You will please Remember me to Thomas and all the children. Also give my kind respects to your mother as her and I used to have Some big old times milking the cows. I wish I could write a letter like you then I could fill this sheet and not half try. But I cant So I will haft to close by bidding you once more a kind a dieu and as ever remain your affectionate Friend till death.

Joseph F. Green

[P.S.] To Mrs Juliana Reynolds

PS Please excuse all mistakes and bad writing

Good by please write soon to your friend Jo