

Btry A - 11th FA Greenville SC Oct 9 - 1917

My dear Papa -

I received the cards from M^{rs} last week and appreciate very much your thinking about me on my birthday. Bessie also thought of me and sent me a wire on the 5th. I have just received the Albemarle Observer and have enjoyed reading it very much. I have written M^{rs} and have asked him to send me the No-Pilot for a month or two. This was 10 days or more ago but haven't heard from

him please ask me to see
if Minton has received my
letter and if he is going to
send the paper and if not
to have it sent and I will
send him the cost. I don't
want to lose track entirely
of happening around Norfolk
and Eastern Carolina as long
as I am in this country and we
get none of that local news in
any papers down here. I have also
gotten the Army blunder that Mary
B. sent me. Please thank her
for it. It is very acceptable
as the nights here are far
from warm. Also please
tell Mest and Mary in writing

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To me to put "Battery a" as well
as 112th F.A. as there is another
Lieutenant Dixon in Battery
B and several pieces of mail
from you all have gone to him
first, and besides there are other
Dixons in other Batteries, though
not Lieutenants. Ask Mack to have
the correction made by Mr. Story
on his address on his paper.
We are certainly tied down here, with
no chance of getting furloughs. I haven't
applied for any but about 60 of
our men have been trying to get leave

to go home sometime this month
but Colonel Cox by order of the
general has turned them all
down and I had to see the
Battery on Saturday that there
was no charge for any of them
to get home any time soon except
for very urgent reasons. Will
father is to be married on Nov

14th and wrote me Friday asking
that I wait on him. I was very
much grieved to have to write
him that I couldn't get away.

I was especially sorry for Will
and I have been such close
friends for a long number of
years. Our movements are still

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very vague but everyone seems to think that we will spend the winter here. Beverly Royster and I have a tent together and we have had it converted into a little wooden house with a canvas top. This was done by building a box the size of the tent and fitting the tent over it. The walls are 5 ft high and we also have a door. I have never been

so actively and constantly employed either at school or at work as I am here. We have to get up for Reville and from then until Hochoa

PM are drilling the men. From 4 to 5 we see the Non-Commissioned officers and from 7 to 8 go to school ourselves. So we have to be very much on the job all day and most of the night. However we get off at dinner on Wednesdays and Saturdays and all day Sunday which gives us a breathing spell though sometimes we are obliged to catch up our work by studying during the rest periods on these days.

Right many of the men had chills and fevers at first but now are all right. Personally I like the

work very much and feel like I am getting very hard. I don't feel like I am as fat looking

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as formerly but probably weigh more. The only thing I don't care for is getting up before day. Brownie's outfit is facing on the same road with ours but is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles nearer to Greenville. I see him 2 or 3 times a week. He has time off at night and can get to town more than I can. He has just been over here tonight with Ed Bond + Jno Bond and has gone off with them in my car. I tried him to keep the car until Wednesday afternoon as I can't

get chance to use it untill then
Whenever I go to town I turn it
over to him for awhile.

My pictures have just come and
I will send you one when I can
get them tied up. Anything
is hard to get out at camp
even string & paper. We are
going to get a little oil store
for our little box and hope to
be able to get some comfort
from it this winter.

Sentiments in the army
don't have much money in these
times of high prices. Whereas the
enlisted men pay has been
considerably increased, for instance
a private now gets 300⁰⁰ instead of
150⁰⁰ the officers' pay has not been
increased. Of course the men
get rations and clothes free but

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officers have to pay for ~~everything~~ ¹⁹¹
 and rations and clothes are
 in many cases more than 100%
 higher. We have to pay 30⁰⁰ each
 per month for our board at the
 Regimental Mess, where we have to
 eat. Artillery officers have so much
 stuff to buy such as hats, field
 glasses & other instruments. Boots
 cost 27⁵⁰, glasses 35⁰⁰ & so on.
 But I make enough to live on so
 am perfectly satisfied. In fact I
 personally am not lacking at all.
 The only thing that worries me is to
 be separated from you. I do hope

You are heading your own I
certainly at the first opportunity
will get a furlough to see you
though it will be probably a month
or two before we will be allowed
to get home. Tell Mary B. the

next time she makes any chocolate
fudge to send me a little by
mail. The fellows down here are
constantly getting a cake or some
home-made candy and it tastes very
good, I imagine, to eat something
made at home.

With devoted love to you all
affectionately
Richard