

# Letter From Ramsay, Charles S. written Sunday, December 29th, 1861

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Soldier: Ramsay, Charles S.

Allegiance: Union

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Date Written: Sunday, December 29th, 1861

Location: Camp Platt

Correspondence Type: Letter

Subjects: Camp Life, Commanders, Comrades, Daily Life, Family, Friends, Home, Wife/Girlfriend

My Dear Katie,

Another Sabbath is here but with it comes no rest, no fireside enjoyment, no sanctuary privileges; exiled from all I sit down in our tent for a few moments this morning to communicate with you, my darling wife. I wrote you a long letter last Thursday (which I presume you have received ere this) giving you an account of our Christmas. Since then Mr. Isaac Jacobs has arrived bringing with numerous good things together with letters. I was so fortunate as to receive three of the latter; one from you, one from Sister Anna & one from Mr. McCuddy. I had calculated in answering them all today but having been detailed to carry water and help cook, I am afraid that it will be as much as I can do to get time to write you.

Mr. Jacobs arrived here Friday afternoon on the Steamer Dunleith in good health having enjoyed a pleasant trip up the river. We were somewhat disappointed on account of Arn's non arrival as we looked for him at the same time. Companies I & F, Captain Cummings & Stoughs together with numbers of Regimental Band from Springfield were the recipients of numerous favors from their friends in old Clark. Since his arrival we have been living high and have enjoyed it highly. Turkeys, chickens, pies, bread, cakes, etc. etc. have been devoured vivaciously. Sheet iron crackers are in poor demand among most of the boys from old Clark, they having so much better articles of food. Fat pork is also below par, Turkey and chicken being preferable. We are having holiday meals sure enough thanks to kind friends at home all of which we can more properly appreciate having been deprived of such good things for so long a time.

I am sorry that you had such a time with your nipples but you should not call him such dirty names. I believe I should have to laugh at you two if I was home though I would feel bad because it hurt you so.

I am sorry that Mother improves so slowly. It seems that all the afflictions come at the same time. I am afraid that you were too much of a burden for them. Mother being sick. I don't know but it would have been better for you to have gone down home and been confined there for they would have been in a better condition to have taken care of you.

I am rejoiced to think that you have got along so finely but you must not commence work too soon and you must be very careful and not over work yourself.

The weather has been somewhat cooler for several days past, that is the mornings have been quite cool but the sun shines warm during the day making it quite pleasant.

Tell Arn that I do not consider him a competent judge of beauty so he need not think that I am going to believe the boy ugly on his say so. I know that its good looking could not be otherwise having such good looking Pa & Ma.

Hez has plenty to eat. Neither he or I expected anything from you folks knowing that you were all sick. I received a couple of loaves of bread from home and some sugar cakes also a fine buffalo robe from Mr. McCuddy. At least Mr. Jacobs informed me that he sent it too me. Mr. Mc did not say anything about it in his letter. It is a glorious institution anyway.

Mr. Jacobs did not enjoy a very good night's rest the first night he was here. He slept in Doc. Roger's tent and slept cold. Last night he lodged at Mr Farley's and as he had a bed I presume, he rested better. He does not think much of this country but thinks we have a fine place for a camp.

They are getting along pretty well with the winter quarters. They will have the company quarters all ready to take possession of by New Years. They have not as yet said anything to us of our quarters but presume they will be furnished us.

My cold is much better. William Mee [?] of Captain Cumming's company dies last evening. His father is here and is going to take the body home with him. They say that there are none in the hospital now considered dangerously ill though some are very sick.

They have received our dress uniforms at last but will not distribute them until we get into our new quarters.

We (the Band) are talking of paying another visit to malden on New Years day providing we can get the Permission of Colonel. If we do go, you may calculate in us having a good time. Seeing that I can't get home to see you and enjoying your society and get good things, I feel like having all the enjoyment the circumstances admit of.

But I must close. Remember me to all the folks. Kiss our boy. Much love for yourself from your affectionate husband,  
Charlie (Ramsay)