

Envelope dated: May 1, 1862

Camp in Kent County

Camp In Kent County
Sunday May 1, 1862

S. Jamison

Dear Wife

The week just closed has been very severe having had to follow up the Rebels from Williamsburgh. Knowing the cunning and treachery of the foe we had to pursue with caution and detailed parties were constantly scouring the woods to prevent if possible our men falling into an Ambuscade and I am glad to inform you we have been so far sucessfull

I hope James is a good and obedient Boy and assists his Mother all that he can without any surlishness. Tell him I shall make good my promise of a present if I live to return. George I hope is attending school regular and making rapid progress. I hope Samuel is improving. I sent a letter this day week. I have received no answer trusting you are all collectively injoying good health and hoping before long to meet once more around the festive board. I conclude for the present and Remain

Your Affectionate
Husband

direct as Sam Jamieson
before

May 1, 1862 continued

We are advancing Slowly but
Surly to the Rebel Capital and
ere another Sabbath appears
probably before you receive this
letter The Stars and Stripes will
be floating undisturbed in the
City of Richmond- - -

Let my mother know I had
about 5 minutes of a talk with
John on Thursday. He was on the
march past the place where I
was encamped and as our
destination is the same although
the route is different we
may have an oppertunity of
meeting again this week.
His health is good and seems
cheary.

No incidents have happined worth
mentioning since I last wrote
you. One thing I may mention
by orders of General McLelland

Know Marching or Fighting
is to be done on Sunday
unless absolutly necessary
for our safety. Consequently we
hail with gladness the approach
of a Sabbath Morning to rest
and recruit our strength- - -
Our victuals is not very choice
it is composed of hard buscit
Salt Junk and fat pork with
occasionally fresh beef.
Coffie and Sugar we have
every day but no vegetables
as the weather is getting
warm and the watter in some
places very scarce. Unless fresh
Suip with vegetables is furnished
to the men sickness may
break out amongst us. Symptoms
appear in the camp already.

Camp 8 miles from Richmond May 27th 1862

S. Jamison

Dear Wife

My last letter was dated 18th but at that time I was confident we would be in possession of Richmond before another week would elapse but my opinion has turned out to be rather sanguine in consequence of the many obstacles we have to encounter our progress has not been so rapid as was anticipated and judging from appearances our advance will be disputed in a determined manner. The field on which I write was the Theater of A Sharp engagement on Saturday

and now while I am writting the Booming of Cannon is plainly heard a few miles ahead whither It proceeds from the gunboats on the river or a Actions on land I cannot at present tell but a short time will decide If it be on the land we will shortly have to fall in for the purpose of reinforcing

I have nothing new to mention I enjoy my health good but the means to satisfy the appetite are sometimes very limited by mismanagment or Raugery on the part of The Brigade Quartermaster our food is very scarce when on the march and as this region of country is very thinely populated our chances for either purchase or plunder are not at all pleasing

May 27th 1862 continued

but we console ourselves with
the hope that a brighter day
is about to dawn and peace
will soon be restored to our
distracted Country.

You mentioned in Your last
letter about furnishing me with
articles which I stand in
need of and I may state
that even if you had the
means it would be altogether
foolish for to attempt to forward any
package here The number
of hands it would necessarily
have to pass through I am
certain it never would reach
its destination I have reserved
a few shillings so soon as
I arrive at a place where
the people are civilized I will
make myself comfortable for
one week at any rate

I see by reference to the Herald
that another appropriation half
a million dollars has been granted
for the familys of solders. I hope
hope the have commenced to give
it out let me know the particulars
in your next hoping you are
all enjoying good health
I conclude for the present
by remaining your affectionate

Husband

Samuel Jamieson

Direct as Before

My love to Jane and assure her I
sympathise with her in her lonely condition
but as her Husband has not gone
to the wars the probability is he will
return without missing any of his limbs

Sam Jamieson

Envelope dated: June 21st 1862

Camp Near Fair Oaks VA
June 21st 1862

S. Jamison

Dear Wife

I sent you a few lines beginning of the present week. It was then my opinion I would have it in my power to send on some money in a few days and I am glad to inform you that I was correct. Our Regiment got payed of yesterday. I have given into the hands of Mr. Beecher our esteemed Chaplin \$23.00 (twenty three) dollars as he intends going to Washington with the funds and paying into Adams Express Co. and receiving the receipts personally. Some two or three days will lapse before he leaves Washington for N Y. You need not expect it till the end of the week. You shall have to pay 25¢ on delivery.

As the fourth of July approaching the children to make a fi give James each

As for the ballance I leave that entirely to your distribution. Hoping that with the assistance shortly to be given by the relief committee you will be inabled to get along pretty comfortable for a short time.

I sent a certificate in my last your adress was left a blank. If you have to presint it get some good hands at figures to fill it up -----

No change has taken place with me since I last wrote. We are buibuisly employed every day making entrenchments. When or where the blow is to be struck I have noo oppertunity of knowing. Write me the money hoping family

6/21/1862 letter

Fair Oaks

Envelope dated: Aug 14th 1862

Camp Near Harrison Landing

Camp Near Harrison Landing
Aug 14th 1862

S. Jamison

Dear Wife

Your letter and dispatch
I received this morning by which I am informed you are all in the enjoyment of your usual state of health as this leaves me in possession of the same blessing. I would have delayed writing for a few days had it not been for the fact that present appearances indicate a speedy move from this place. We have our knapsacks packed and taken down to the landing for the purpose of putting them on board some of the transports. Also our Seige guns are taken away. Where our destination is I am at a loss to imagine. We are prepared to start at a minutes notice and in all likelihood this is the last letter from this part of Virginia. Where I will next pitch my tent time will tell but I hope our leavetaking of this unhealthy

peninsular is final.

Address your letter same as formerly. The follow the Regiment no matter in what quarter we be. Tell my mother I seen John on Sunday. His health has entirely restored. I have been informed the Brigade

which he belongs has already left. There is some move on the Chess Board which will soon be developed and I expect we will be called on to do our Share-----

You are desirous of knowing what kind of food I subsist on and I may inform you we are furnished with more than sufficient if we had the proper articles to cook with. Since the fighting commenced we twice loosed everything onely what was on our backs. Cooking utensils knapsacks and all loose articles had to be abandoned. We have been partially supplied again by the Quartermaster and he intends to keep charge of them while we are changing our quarters. Since we left Fortress Monrow hard biscit has been our daily bread. Only twice have the issued to this Regiment loaf bread and then it was two or three days old. Coffie and suger of sufficient for morning and evening fresh meat three times per week with a supply of bacon pork and salt beef. Rice beans and desicated vegetables we just cook for dinner what fancy or appetite dictates. The weather being so hot it is not safe to eat anything onely what is easily digested--- A report is current in camp we are destined for Baltimore or Washington for to fill up our Division. If such be the case and any liklyhood of remaining there any length of time I will endavour to get a furlough for two weeks. My Love, Mother children and all the family while I remain Your Affectunate Husband

Samuel Jamieson

Banks Ford May 5th / 63

Dear Wife and Friends

You have no doubt before this time heard some stirring news from the Army of the Potomac and as you will be anxious concerning me I embrace the first opportunity presented this past eight days to inform you that amidst the many dangers to which we have been exposed it has pleased God to deal mercifully with this Regiment 3 deaths and 5 or 6 with slight scratches being the total of casualties which we suffered and tent mate Arthur Green having escaped unhurt. If justice be accorded us in the Papers you will find

our Brigade figured very prominently from the commencement of the move up till daylight this morning to this Brigade the laying of the pontoons was intrusted for the troops in this part of the army to cross the Rappahanock that being successively accomplished we were engaged as supports from right to left of the Line up till Saturday night last when we were ordered to enter Fredricksburgh and occupy the same at all hazards at the still hour of Midnight we started on our mission accompanied by a Battery of Artillery we dove in the pickets with the loss of a few lives in one of Regiments

S. Lamison

use 4/12

5/5/1863 Banks Ford
Arthur Grier - referred to in letter.

May 5th /63 continued

about noon of the same day we were a part of the charging party on the Fortifications we drove them out sustaining a considerable loss of life in consequence of one of the Regiments wavering in the rush. The point however was gained and considerable prisoners taken. we rested for two hours and formed in Line Battle and one of the most fearfull musketry fights ensued which I have been eye witness to continued up till till dark. The Loss of life on both sides must have been dreadfull. we maintained our position and held it up till dark last night when we was ordered to fall back and recross the river which was accomplished about daylight

morning we are now awaiting orders I must close in haste and remain your

Affectionate Husband
Samuel Jamieson

Envelope dated: Sept 1st 1863

Camp Near Warrington, Va.

Camp Near Warrington Va
September 1st 1863

Dear Wife

from present appearances we will soon have a move out of this neighborhood and taken advantage of the opportunity which now offers I send you my likeness. Some of the members of the Company pronounce it correct while others again differ in opinion. I think however it is tolerable well taken I will leave it to your better judgement for to decide. I think you will have much difficulty to recognize the features of your long absent Husband.

I enclose \$5.00 which make up the amount I intended

to send by Adams Express Co. I hope it will all reach you safely.

Your letter paper and stamps of the 26th came safely to hand. I am glad to hear you are all in the enjoyment of your usual health. You express surprise at my not being more particular in stating what had happened to my knee. If it had been any way dangerous I would have apprised you of the fact. I will state however that I got a bite from some poisonous insect I think it must have been a spider none of your common New York spiders but a real Live Virginian almost as large as a Frogg. It swelled up and inflamed the knee

9/1/1863 Warrington, Va.

Sept 1st 1863 continued

and thigh and caused
a severe pain for a few days
through the whole body but
I applied the proper Remedies
and am now all right again.

In regard to James and
George I can only say You
will find it a fruitless task
to keep them confined. The
House boys like them no
matter how closely they are
watched will have Liberties.
Your duty is plain. Keep
them under all the restraint
possible. Make them attend
Sabbath School regular and
if they learn bad habits during
the week the teachings which
they receive in School will
have a counter acting influence.
I hope they have not learned
any greaving or vicious habits.

If they have acted in such a
manner as to cause you
to blush then I feel very
much for the way you are situated.
If on the other hand they have
been guilty of nothing only
boyish tricks and stopping
from home longer than was
right I think by applying
the Rod in a becoming manner
you will manage to get
along while vacation lasts.

My sheet is about filled up
I wish to conclude for the present
by sending my Love to Family
and Friends collectively and
remain Your Affectionate

Husband
Samuel Jamieson