



MSS219 David N. Lilley Letters, American Civil War Digital Collections: Letters, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

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Transcriptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.

My Dear Sister.

Camp near Morrisville Virginia

Aug 28. 1863

I take this opportunity of writing you these few lines to inform you that I am well at this time hoping letter may find you enjoying the Same Blessing I received your kind and welcome letter and was very glad to hear from you. when I set down to write this Evening I intended to give you full account of of Every thing is going on But Since I set down I find that I am not hardly Capable of writing such a letter as I would wish to do But we are all in hopes that Charleston the heart of the rebellion will soon fall if So the Southern Confederacy with the loss of Vicksburg and the missippa is Split fair into we also have good news from North Carolina She has asked the government to protect her. Shant we have Some glorious victories after while wait till fort Sumter and Battery wgoner and we get full possession of the harbour then mobeal must surely fall and then richmond can not sustain its self it will fall with its own weight. You might see if you read the papers that there will soon be a general advance and victory will most assuredly crown our Efforts rosener any is not getting ready to march for nothing he has never been defeated yet general Banks is also moveing and you will soon hear of the army of the potomac moving

Camp near morrisville virginia

Aug 28 1863

My [underline] Dear [end underline] Sister

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Every thing is going on nice Since general Mead took Command of this Army he is a man that Believes in thorough discipline he had too deserters shot to day I saw them shot my self they were shot right out in front of our regiment they took it very coolly they died like heroes they never flinched but stood up erect and were shot down like dogs I pittied them but Annie they knowed they were doing wrong they deserted three times and come out the fourth time as substitutes geting a large Bounty Every time did they not deserve what they got I come without Bounty and never expect to get any but I am willing to stay my time out for I tell you Annie this war is getting to be a mighty desperate thing for it needs all the able Boddies we have got to suppress this rebellion I have always done my part and I always will I am able I have followed our colors through thick and thin I have spent too years in the service I cant say that I am tired of it yet I have participated in several hard fought battles I have seen men fall all around but I have never yet felt discouraged and I believe if I am spared to see this war over or my time out I mean the war was still going I believe that I would enlist again when I was at home I had better vittuals and better beds to sleep in than I have now but I am Equally as happy now as I was then

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There is only one thing bothers me that is I am
affraid alfred will be drafted But I hope he wont
when you write you must tell me all the news of
every thing that is going on around your place
tell me if there is any talk of alfred getting married
tell me if John goes to see any Boddy and tell me if
ye your sel ha got a we Bo for if ye donny get one
pretty soon ye will be sa old no Boddy will ha ye
I think that I have writen enough for this time
more I expect than you will read and another
thing I am in a hurry this evening I can write
a very good hand when I take notion But I allways
get carless when I get near the end give my love
to alfred tell him them are nice letters he writes
to me give my loves to all the boys that I know
of I will close for this time please enclose me one stamp
I will tell you what I want it for I want to write to
Vallie gamble give my love to all enquiring Friends
keeping the urgest I have for Your self

I remain your affectionate Brother

David N Lilley To His Sister

Annie Lilley

good By and write soon

Newark Delaware

there is only one thing Bothers me is that I am affraid
alfred will Be drafted But I hope he wont when you write
you must tell me all the news of Every thing that is going
on around your places tell me if there is any talk of alfred
getting married tell me if John joes to See any Boddy and
tell me if ye your Sel ha got a we Bo for if you donny get
one pretty Soon ye will Be Sa old no Boddy will ha yet I
think that I have written Enough for this time more I expect
thatn you will read and another think I am in a hurry this
Evening I Can write a very good hand when I take notion
But I allways get Carless when I get near the End give
my love to alfred tell him them are nice letter he writes to
me give my loves to all the Boys that I know of I will Close
for this time please enclose me one Stamp I will tell you
what I want it for I want to write too [underline] Sallie [end
underline] gamble give my love to all enquiring Friends
keeping the urgest I have for Your Self
I remain your affectionate Brother
David N Lilley To His Sister
Annie Lilley
[underline] good [end underline] By [underline] and write
Soon Newark Delaware [end underline]