

Camp of the 14th Maine  
Regt of Volunteer Infantry  
Near Brandy Station Culpeper  
County Virginia

April 24th, 1864

Dear Cousin Frank

I received your kind  
letter the other day & was glad  
to hear from you once more  
& to hear that you are all well  
I am well & hearty & trust this  
will find you the same &  
the rest of the family it is  
fine weather here now the peach  
trees are in the blossom & flowers  
of difrent kinds are in bloom  
in the fields & woods grass is green  
and looks fine where there is a  
spot that is not trampled upon  
by the trooper it is Sunday but  
we dont hav any Sunday in the  
army we hav had an inspection

to day of our Division with has  
but 2 Brigades in it now ours  
is the second with has got 9  
Regiments it is commanded by Gen  
Hayes, being one of the finest  
in the whole army. we are going  
to move camp in the morning we  
have been temporarily attached to  
the second Corps there is no third  
Corps now we are the third <sup>on</sup> <sup>at</sup>  
of the second Corp being consolidated  
with the old second Division of  
the third Corps there is no  
news heard we dont know what  
is going on out of hearing there  
is a great money rumour going  
heard but it looks as though  
there might be some hard  
fighting heard soon the presence  
that. we take lately say that  
Lee has 90,000 men & will soon  
attack us if he does he will  
get the worst whipping an army

ever got but if we have  
to cross the river to fight  
him it will be a rough time  
I tell you Frank if we have a  
fight & are lucky enough to drive  
them into Richmond then we have  
got them I think I shall try &  
come home this summer if things  
work right you had better peel  
your bark this summer & get all  
off from them lots into money  
as soon as you can for when  
this thing does take a turn it  
will be hard times & a man that  
has got land or property of any  
kind to be stayed it will take  
half the value to pay it I can  
see it heard better than people  
at home can I shall not give the  
reason heard, but wait & see  
understand me when I say money  
I mean hard cash & not scrip I  
wish I could come home & talk

things over with you but there  
if I get killed out hear it  
want make a damns odds to me  
how the thing goes only I  
dont want my children to suffer  
for bread take good care of  
my rifle & revolver keep them  
well oiled the revolver sure  
for I think you of that then  
two rifles I shal want to use  
it after I get home I hav lost  
two rifles this spring it is a  
dam rough one on me to for  
they cost \$19,00 each witch takes  
three mounthes pay, but some  
fool cur has got to loose more  
than that if I live to serve my  
time out, dead men is no price  
to a soldier that has seen some  
where I hav ben it is thought  
nothing of to drive a team  
over the bodies of men thier  
legs & armes sticking up as the  
wheels roll over them thier bones  
crack like dry sticks

Camp of the 17<sup>th</sup> Maine  
Reg't of Volunteer Infantry

Near Brandy Station Culpepper County Virginia

April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Dear Cousin Frank,

I received your kind letter the other day & was glad to hear from you once more & to hear that you are all well. I am well & hearty & trust this will find you the same & the rest of the family. It is fine weather here now the peach trees are in the blossom & flowers of different kinds are in bloom in the fields & woods. Grass is green and looks fine where there is a spot that is not trampled upon by the troops. It is Sunday but we don't have any Sunday in the army we have had an inspection today of our Division which has but 2 Brigades in it now ours is the second which has got 9 Regiments it is commanded by Gen Hayes, being one of the finest in the whole army. We are goin to move Camp in the morning we have been temporarily attached to the second Corps. There is no third Corps now we are the third Division of the second Corps being consolidated with the old second Division of the third Corps. There is no news here we don't know what is goin on out of hearing there is a great many rumors goin here but it looks as though there might be some hard fighting here soon. The prisoners that we take lately say that Lee has 90,000 men & will soon attack us. If he does he will get the worst whipping an army ever got but if we have to cross the river to fight him it will be a rough time. I tell you Frank if we have a fight & are lucky enough to drive them into Richmond then we have got them. I think I shall try & come home this summer. If things work right you had better pile your cash this summer & get all off from them lots into money as soon as you can for when this thing does take a turn it will be hard times & a man that has got land or property of any kind to be taxed it will take half the value to pay it. I can see it here better than people at home can I shall not give the reason here but wait & see. Understand me when I say money I mean hard cash & not script. I wish I could come home & talk things over with you but there. If I get killed out here it won't make a damn odds to me how the thing goes only I don't want my children to suffer for bread. Take good care of my rifle & revolver keep them well oiled the revolver sure for I think more of that than two rifles. I shall want to use it after I get home. I have lost two rifles this spring it is a damn rough one on me too for they cost \$19.00 each which takes three months pay. But some poor cus (*cousin*) has got to lose more than that if I live to serve my time out. Dead men is no fright to a soldier that has seen service where I have been. It is thought nothing of to drive a team over the bodies of men their legs and arms sticking up as the wheels roll over them their bones crack like dry sticks.

April 24th, 1864, Camp of the 17th Maine, Regiment of Volunteer Infantry. \$550.00  
Near Brandy Station, Culpeper County, Virginia. C. Albert Gammon writes a letter  
to his Cousin Frank. This is a very fine letter with alot of War news.

1. Weather is nice, peach trees blooming, green grass, when not all trampled down.
2. Take care of your rifle, costs \$19.00 to replace.
3. Lee's Army across the river with 90,000 men.
4. Seen alot of bad scenes of dead men, it is thought nothing to drive a team over  
bodies of dead men, arms and legs stick up as the wheels roll them, their bones  
crack like dry sticks.