

ARMY AND NAVY
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

"WITH THE COLORS"

Sunday, Dec 9, 1917

Dear Marie,

I sure am awfully sorry to hear that your cold is getting worse, and hope that you will be feeling like yourself again by this time. I know you must feel miserable, especially when you are in school. I wish I could learn to be more careful but did not think for a minute that you were getting cold until you spoke.

You are doing well in school and I am mighty glad to hear it. Keep it up and you will not regret it when you go to High School. You cannot appreciate the

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value of a little hard work at school, now, but believe in me when I say that you will realize later, the advantages of all the school you can get. Whatever you do, don't give up the idea of going to H.C. You simply must go if you possibly can. These four years are worth a great deal even though one has to study some things that seem to be non-essential. High school gives one only a fundamental idea of a lot of important things; those graduates who don't think they "know it all" realize how much there


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is to learn. One feels an "urge", or incentive, to think and get a better understanding of things in every day life and also of things that we might otherwise overlook. So remember, little girl, no matter what we will or will not be to each other, if you would take the advice of a good friend, go to High School.

I should be glad to have you make something for me for Christmas. While I told all the folks not to send anything, yet I do want something from just you alone. Would you like



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to make a box of fudge
for my birthday - the 21st?
This will be the last box,
for I simply must cut out
that stuff.

Your picture is in my watch
now. I have nearly all the
pictures that we took this
summer and often take them
out and think of the happy
times we have had together
this summer. Here's hoping
that those we took Thanks-
giving will be good.

Those three days with you
were the happiest I have
ever known and I will
never forget.

We are having it
pretty cold now. Saturday
morning it was 7 below.



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and one sure does feel it here. It snowed all day Friday — the 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st sections had mounted drill in the storm, and so I was thankful I'm in the fifth. We have seventy brand new saddles of the very best type so the whole company will ride together soon. Some of the saddles we have now are the little flat ones with steel stirrups — used by English gentlemen for riding in the parks but useless for our work. It sure is no joke to stick to one of the "pancake" saddles and lead an argumentive mule at the same time.

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Serint. Butler said that the fellows were letting too many mules get away, and that the next fellow that let go of the rope before falling from the saddle, was going to hear from him. My reputation for hanging on to my mule or least-horse is without a spot so far, but yours truly is going to kiss that mule goodbye before he will do any Charlie Chaplin fluff on the cold, cold ground.

Saturday I was on kitchen police duty and we didn't have any fire in the dining room at


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breakfast time. It was
 7 below outside and I'll
 bet it was 20 below in
 the kitchen. The water
 would freeze on the dishes
 while they drained. We
 couldn't mop the floor
 because the water would
 freeze before the floor was
 clean and dry. Even the
 the vinegar froze solid.
 When I got through fussing
 with the wet dish towel
 I thawed out my fingers
 with cold water. We
 feed 86 men now. Each
 private gets "K.P." about
 three or four times a month,
 for one day. Well the Y.M.C.A.
 wants to lock up so
 goodnight,
 Yours,
 Forrest.



LEAVENWORTH,
DEC 12-17
11-30 PM
KANS.



Miss Ava Marie Shaw
389 Highland Ave.
Beloit, Wis.

From

F. W. Bassett
Co. A-6th F. Bn. S. C.
Ft. Leavenworth,
Kansas.

NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL
OF THE
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
OF THE UNITED STATES
"WITH THE COLORS"