

MACK TO NAN

Saturday Nov 12th 1864

My Dear Nan.

again I will write a few lines to you this Saturday afternoon and finish it tomorrow. We are building winter quarters today or part of the Regt is. we D.C. and I hant built our house yet. I think we will build monday. we have to get our logs drawed on a wagon and we cant get a team to day. So we have nothing to do. I get tired of laying around. it makes me lonesom to be doing nothing when others is at work right by me. Nan this morning I received a pair of Socks that you Sent to me. they are good ones but I do not need them very bad yet. I have one pair that I brought from home that is tolerable good yet. there is Small holes in the heels of them but I Can wear them Some time yet. I drew a pair from uncle Sam. they are good and new. I will keep them you Sent to me till I ware the others out. how thankful I am for your loving kindness to me. I know you wood do any thing and every thing to make me comefortable. well Nan I do not Suffer for the want of any Clothing to keep me warm. no I have plenty and good enough too to make me warm as I can expect to be with the conveniences of a Soldier. a Soldier is well provided for with clothing. D.C. Sam Helsel and me Sleeps together and we have four thick woolen blankets and three rubber blankets between us. So we have enough to make us warm of nights. but I can never take any Satisfaction till this war Stops and we be united again. this is all my prospects for Comefort in the world. I do wish the war wood Stop. I want to Se you the worst kind. I hant had any letter from you for nearly a week. I think I will get one from you tomorrow. I hant had a letter from home for nearly two weeks. D.C. gets letters from Bess every day or two. the last one She Said the folks was all well. Bess Sent D.C. a little box of butter by mail. I think there was about a lb of it. I tell you it tasted like Michigan butter. it did not taste like the Sutlers butter. it was So good we et it all up at two messes and we drew a days ration of Soft bred (or light bred) and it had just been baked at City Point and was warm yet when we got it and we et all that was calculated for three meals at one meal with our butter. it was the best mess I have had in the army. today this forenoon I went over to the fifth Corps where Mr Mcdougall is he is Cooking for the officers and he had baked a lot of Apple pies so he made me bring one home with me. it was laming it was as good a pie as I ever et. no mistake in bill anderson. Mcdougall is well and fat as a pig. now I will Stop for today as it is getting towards night and is comenceing to rain and the wind blows the Smoke over the house pretty bad. I wish I cood Se you tonight I wood tell you many a thing that I cant write what comefort we cood take together O I hope the time ant far distant when we will be permitted to Se each other and live together again. I hope this letter will find you enjoying your Self as well as posiabile and well in boddy and mind. now the wind blew So hard I must Stop for tonight. Good night.

Dear Nan. Mc

Sunday morning 13th

now I will finish my letter. I have no news to write this morning So I Cant write much. I expected a letter from you this morning and one from home but I did not get a letter. I know you have wrote to me if you have been able but probably the letters have been misplaced Some way. I want to hear from you the worst kind and will Surely get a letter tomorrow. I dont know why I dont get any letters from home any more. I have wrote a letter to all of the folks and get no answers. I think I wont write home any more till I get a letter. it is quite Cool and Clear this morning. now I must Close this letter because I have no news to write that is worth writing I hope this will find you in good Sperits and well. I feel very anxious to hear from you. Nan be as cheerful as posiabile.
write as Soon and often as you can
take good Care of your Self.

give my love to your father and all the family. good by for this time.

Nan. Mc Ewing

Note: The [above] letter was written Nov. 12 & 13, 1864, bears Washington postmark of Nov. 15, and Ironton, O. postmark Nov. 22, and a notation on the envelope "Missent."

AEE

Note: Samuel H. Hessel was 18 years old when he was mustered in on April 8, 1864 with the other Hillsdale men; he survived the war and was mustered out on July 28, 1865. There is a William Anderson listed in the Second Michigan Infantry roster, but this one was not from the Hillsdale area, so I don't know whether or not it's the same person Mack refers to. Presumably the McDougall mentioned is the same one who appears earlier in this correspondence.

WKE 022097