

SOCIETY BANK OF EASTERN OHIO  
DATA

06-07-73 Liberty  
 07-15-74 Main - North Office  
 05-08-75 Marwood  
 10-08-80 Name Change to  
 Society Bank  
 10-05-81 Ridgewood  
 Marwood Closed  
 ATM: Liberty  
 Poland, Wedgewood  
 12-00-81 Remodel: Liberty  
 Poland, Wedgewood  
 06-30-84 Newport Closed  
 10-01-84 Regional Bank

05-01-16 Morris Plan Bank  
 05-01-40 Move to Central  
 Square  
 04-12-46 Name Change to  
 Peoples Bank  
 04-12-60 Main Office  
 Remodeled  
 02-09-59 Newport  
 01-05-65 Wedgewood  
 12-00-67 Wedgewood Enlarged  
 05-06-68 Poland  
 04-15-71 Affiliation with  
 Society Corp

MYRON ISRAEL ARMS  
1822 - 1864

Son of Israel and grandson of Daniel who was one of the first settlers of Sodus, New York. Daniel had been a good friend of Asher Warner who was killed in 1812 by a British raiding party and is buried beside Daniel Arms though they died years apart.

Jonathon, son of Asher, moved to Youngstown prior to 1840. He later gave employment to his young friend Myron and eventually became his father in law as his oldest daughter Emaline married Myron.

Myron Israel Arms left Youngstown to enlist as a private in the union army in 1864. Town records of this year indicate that he was the 4th largest taxpayer in Youngstown behind Mr. David Tod and Mr. Brown and Bounell all much older. He died shortly thereafter of Typhoid fever leaving six children. At the time of his enlistment he was manager of the Eagle Furnace, the second iron producing unit in the Mahoning Valley. It had been built by Jonathon Warner and three others. Mr. Arms was also a partner in a large department store near the Diamond in Youngstown.

I have his letter asking for Warner's daughters hand and also numerous letters from the battlefield prior to his death. One especially poignant note to his brother Freeman, asking that he marry his widow and help bring up his six children.

He appears to have been a serious, hard working man much respected by his wife and children.

Warner Arms Beck jr  
August, 1966  
Cincinnati, Ohio

To Cousin Charles Schaff,

With many nostalgic memories  
of the great trip across the country in '39  
and since at the Point.

Warner Arms Pechj, mo.  
SEPT, 1969.

## PREFACE

This small book is built around a flurry of letters interchanged during a 10 week period of active service in the Civil War Union Army between Myron Israel Arms and his wife, Emaline Warner Arms, in the Spring and Summer of 1864.

To these I have added certain other letters which tend to put into perspective this family relationship. I know, though the increment in each of us living 100 years later is very small, I still believe that it is exciting to find out what we have come from especially knowing that we will not find out where we go.

The Arms and Warner family had lived in Sodus, New York, for two generations prior to 1843 when Jonathan Warner and his young friend, Myron Arms, moved their store from Sodus to Youngstown, Ohio. Sodus is on Lake Ontario east of Rochester.

The first Arms in Sodus was Daniel, a fourth generation Yankee from Deerfield, Mass., who came out with his family in 1794. His first impressions are recorded<sup>(1)</sup> as a camp fire kept a pack of wolves at bay while they circled the wagon used to transport the family. The first town meeting was held in his house and he led the band of 40 townfolk who engaged the British in the battle of Sodus Point in 1813. In this engagement Asher Warner, father of Jonathan, was killed. Jonathan's earliest recollection as recorded by his son<sup>(2)</sup>, Whitney, was of hitching up the wagon at the age of 6 to go to town and bring home his father's body.

(1) History of Wayne County, New York, 1877, Everts Ensign, & Everts Phil.

(2) Dedication Remarks at the Tablet Commemorating Battle of Sodus Point.



Daniel and Asher are buried in adjoining family plots in the Sodus cemetery. Daniel's gravestone carries this inscription:

"Kind was His Breast and His Whole Soul. Sincere his Judgement sound his understanding clear. To Friend to Neighbor to Suffering Poor, he held a Liberal Hand and Open Door."

This was also copied by Mrs. Charles Hofer (Jennie Arms) and sent to Cousin Almira Wick, thinking that it portrayed her Father Myron I Arms II, son of our Civil War writer. So at least we are able to tie together the first 4 generations of our study. I like to think these qualities will continue.

Daniel's son Israel married Sarah Axtel whose beautiful portrait hangs in the C. D. Arms homestead, now the Mahoning County Historical Society home, in Youngstown. I know nothing of Israel except through his 5 children, all of whom came to Youngstown apparently following Myron.

One further connection of the Warner and Arms family was that Asher's mother Hanah, a cousin of Cyrus Field of Atlantic cable fame, and Mayflower descendant, had come from Deerfield, Mass.

The first letter is written in August of 1848 and is a request by Myron of his employer, Jonathan Warner, for the hand of his daughter.

There follows the interchange of letters in 1864 after Myron had abruptly requested active duty and left the same day by train. The Arms had 6 children in 1864 and in addition to the store, Jonathan had built the Eagle Blast Furnace and Myron was managing it very successfully. In fact, the year previous Myron no longer a poor boy, had paid the fifth highest income tax in the city of Youngstown.

The sudden enlistment had followed a slur by someone as Myron paid the \$300. bounty for a draft replacement. This was common practice for successful business men with large families, especially when they were 42 years of age. (In those days the draft went to age 45.)

He left the same day despite protestations from his wife, friends, and associates. His train trip took him to Camp Dennison only two miles from my house in Cincinnati, where his first letter home originates. His younger brother Freeman, who worked for Myron in the store, accompanied him on the trip since he was an officer in a National Guard unit called up the same day.

The last of Myron's letters is a fragment of one to this same brother, Freeman, written during his last illness.

Following this is a letter written from the Northern Michigan Peninsula by great-great grandfather, Jonathan Warner, to his wife living in Mineral Ridge, Ohio, on their 50th wedding anniversary in 1872. Jonathan apparently fluctuated from periods of great prosperity as when he built the Presbyterian church in Mineral Ridge to periods of abject poverty. This letter finds him drilling for iron ore in which endeavor he was successful though he had missed the Mesabi range by some distance.

The last notes are by my contemporary and dear friend, cousin Phillip H. Schaff, Jr. a sixth generation descendant of Daniel Arms who begins this brief history of our family. It concerns Summers at Northport Point, Michigan, where some 42 direct descendants of Daniel Arms regularly gather.

The Civil War letters are beautifully written with not one misspelled word discovered and show much good Yankee common sense. Both writers knew illness was the chief danger. This is amply borne out by the 200,000 medical deaths in the Union Army as opposed to 100,000 battlefield casualties. The appalling medical ignorance of the time in prevention and treatment of disease are now well known. Great Grandfather Arms was all too correct in expressing the fear that the doctors knew very little about the epidemic of remittent fever which now we know was probably typhoid. His wife Emaline too was all too correct in worrying about the environment in camp near Norfolk.

Believing it necessary that you should be made acquainted with my intentions and solutions in regard to Emaline, I have chosen this time as the most fitting opportunity, naturally inferring that you, as well as myself would prefer this method to a personal interview -- I have for some time had a sincere regard for Emaline as my singular attendances at your home will testify, and believe her society necessary for my happiness, and I have good reasons for believing that she is not altogether indifferent to me. With your permission I should be glad to fulfill my engagement with her. You have a sufficient knowledge of my character and habits to readily judge of my capabilities for this important step. If you should have any doubts in the matter, I hope you will exercise a frankness which such a subject demands. As I can assure you I would not wish to do anything which would not meet your approbation. If I should be so fortunate as to obtain your consent I trust you will never have cause to regret the confidence you repose in me for her happiness. An early answer, and I remain

Very truly yours

M. I. Arms

Sunday May 8th 1864 - Camp Dennison, Cincinnati

Dear Emaline,

I arrived here this morning at 7 o'clock and feeling very well considering I was up all night. I sent a letter from Cleveland yesterday by Kimberly. There are about 8000 men in camp. Most of them will be ordered off soon. There is some difficulty about organization of or consolidating our battalion with the 92 regiment, for the reason that it is proposed to divide up (3) Freeman's Co. in squads and put them into different companies, all strangers to the boys. Freeman's Co. is below the minimum number necessary to organize a full company. They may therefore let them muster out and go home. The entire battalion has decided if they do this, they will not join the 92 and will not muster

into the U. S. forces, but remain a state unit. How it will be settled I don't know. I should like to be home with you today, but have not regretted yet the step I took in going in.

If this matter should be settled as above written we should be on our way to Washington for defense purposes in a day or two. I shall keep you advised of our movements from time to time. There is plenty of time to write in camp and I shall write often.

I do hope you will not feel bad about my leaving. It is the only thing that gives me trouble. I don't think we shall be in any dangerous service and you may be assured that I will not expose myself but keep as regular in habits as possible.

Affectionately yours,

M. I. Arms

(3) Younger Brother Born Sodus 1824 two years younger than Myron.

19 May 1864

Martinsburg, West Va.

My Dear Wife,

I have receive no letter from home since I left. I feel anxious to hear. It is now nearly two weeks since we left. My health is good and my appetite is also good. I have no trouble to eat my pork and beans and hard tack. I confine myself entirely to army rations and think they are the best for health. We are located just at the village of Martinsburg. It is an old fashioned place, apparently about 25 years behind the age. I have only left camp once since I came and then went down to get shaved.

20th I notice that old and young women and children wear mittens with the fingers cut off at the end made from common sheepskin. It appears to be a general

practice among rich and poor in order I suppose to keep the hands delicate and white. The country is beautiful, lime stone cropping out in ridges over the surface. The fences are made of lime stone but are greatly out of repair. The fields are in this vicinity, mostly open to the commons and cattle roam over the country. In the rear of our camp stands the home and lands of the rebel General Johnson who reinforced Beauregard at the battle of Bull Run. He has since been killed in some battle in Tennessee last season.

Our camp is rather pleasantly situated, but our tents are what is known as the dog tent made of two sheets say 2 yards square, each buttoned together at the top like in appearance to the roof of a house. The soil is a loamy clay and when wet is very disagreeable. We have no floors in the tent but put our oil cloth blankets on the ground and cover with a woolen one if we have an extra one which your correspondent has. A few days in camp such warm weather soon causes a very disagreeable smell and makes it very unpleasant for me. Our cooking articles also do not get any scouring and but very little cleaning. Our knives and forks look the worst. Mrs. Warner would have a fit at the sight of them. I do not want to see you nor any of my lady friends in the camp. It is not a fit place for ladies. It is surprising how soon we accommodate ourselves to circumstances, particularly dirt. I shall be sure before my 100 days to have consumed my peck, if I never did before.

The first nights I lay on the floor my bones would ache all the next day but now I rest as well on hard ground as I do at home and I think better. My duties daily in the way of drill fit me to eat my full rations with a good relish. I am stationed today on duty in town as Provost Guard. We are on duty two hours and four off during the 24. My station is in front of "Col. Somebody" quarters. When I walk my "beat" with all the dignity I can put on considering I have only a few days experience.

Co. A of the 44th Battalion (Iron Guards) went out to guard a wagon train some 45 miles from here. The camp is constantly full of the most absurd rumors got

up for fun and mischief. We shall likely stay here for a spell unless things get out of hand at the front.

Two weeks today since I left I wonder how are all of you. I hope the furnace will continue to grow and do well. I learn from James Wick who came through yesterday that <sup>(4)</sup>MacKinley is there on duty. I feel perfectly content that he will attend to all matters as well as I would.

I find all little necessary articles needed put by you in my valise. I was rather astonished when I came to examine them -- think you were very thoughtful.

Let me hear from you often with all particulars. Kiss the children and say to MacKinley I wish he would write me occasionally. Direct mail to Company D 155 Regt. N. G., Martinsburg.

Affectionately and  
truly yours,

M. I. Arms

<sup>(4)</sup>MacKinley left in charge of Blast Furnace by sudden departure of Myron.

Youngstown May 18th

My Dear Husband,

I have deferred writing from day to day for the reason that I do not know where to direct my letters, but feel I cannot wait any longer or spend this second Sunday without writing to you. I have heard from you three times, am glad to hear that you have made a good beginning in the way of soldiering. I presume though that you put the best side out. I shall feel very anxious until I hear from you again and know of your destination. Freeman cam home Friday, he thought when he left Cincinnati that you were going to New Creek but I see from the paper of yesterday that you had been sent to Columbus, Va.

It is useless to say I am lonesome. I am more than lonesome and the time drags slowly along tho I have been busy cleaning house since you left. When evening and bed time come and I am all alone - I then wonder where you are and how you are until I become so nervous that I cannot go to sleep for hours. I cannot help but think that some one could have taken your place that could not do one quarter the good at home that you can and still do just as well as a soldier. Yet when I know how you feel about it, I feel proud of you and if I could be assured that you would come home at the end of a hundred days all well I would willingly make the sacrifice of your society for the time for I know it will be a great satisfaction to you hereafter if you should be spared to return to us. You went out when called upon and when most needed instead of remaining at home as many others have done. Please take care of yourself and if there is anything we can do for you at home let us know. We have all been well since you left. I think <sup>(5)</sup>Hattie misses you more than any of the children. She often says she wishes Papa could come home and see his "HATTIE;" most always when I am rocking her to sleep. <sup>(6)</sup>Jennie felt very bad the day you left. She thinks a great deal more than <sup>(7)</sup>Em does. <sup>(8)</sup>Mate was upstairs the day you left. She felt very bad, but did not want any one to see her. I did not know where she was until an hour or two after - supposed she was at the depot. The boys were at the depot (Warner and Myron Jr.) but said they did not see you. Freeman is boarding with us, he was anxious to board with us because Carrie was here and there was no other place he could very well take her at present. Joseph has rented part of their house and have no room to spare. Freeman was to lodge at the store. I would rather not take him to board but under the circumstances have concluded to do so.

<sup>(5)</sup> Mrs. Chas. Booth - then 3 years old.

<sup>(6)</sup> Mrs. Chas. Hofer

<sup>(7)</sup> Mrs. George Peck

<sup>(8)</sup> Mrs. Henry Wick - then 16 years old.



(9) Ed came very near going with you. The day you left he got his things ready intending to meet you at Niles, but Mary made such a fuss and felt so bad that father persuaded him not to go. Father has been obliged to stop his old furnace, she chilled up. Martin Warner took dinner here the day after you left (Saturday) came down on the cars from Cleveland to see Freeman and returned by the two o'clock train. He said Freeman was one of the jury of the Supreme Court for criminals, and that Asher (Warner) had been taken up for making counterfeit money<sup>(10)</sup> and if it should be proved against him, he of course would be sent to the penitentiary. Said Asher had got in with a lot of fellows in Cleveland, and they had all turned against him. They are keeping it as still as they could but I believe the trial comes off this week. He thought if he could see Freeman that it perhaps would do some good though I fail to see it. I have not thought to say anything to Freeman about it. Do not know whether I ought to or not.

The trial<sup>(11)</sup> of the Ross girls is going off at Canfield. I have been told that I and a few others whose husbands are away have been let off. I hope it is so. Col. and Mrs. Parks are very anxious to get most of the influential ladies in town to go over but I shall not go if it can be helped. Day before yesterday 16 were indicted and taken to Canfield who had been summoned before. Among the numbers were Mr. and Mrs. Bonnell, Herm and Scott Bonnell, Paul Wick, Jim Rayen, Mrs. Park, Julia Scely, Miss Parish and Mrs. Hasher. Last nite Freeman was subpoenaed for a witness, the Rev. Mr. Hall also, nearly a dozen others have been summoned to appear in court Monday morning. Mrs. Braden, Mrs. Dunsars and Mr. and Mrs. McMillan were over yesterday, I believe they have to go again tomorrow. Mr. Braden is very angry that his wife was on the street the night of the "Tar and Feathering".

(9) Edwin Warner then 32 years old - worked for Myron Brother in Law.

(10) No record of this man - not son of Jonathan - perhaps nephew

(11) Ross girls were harlots tarred & feathered by a group of young people in Youngstown.

Freeman thinks the suit will go harder with our ladies than they have supposed. I hope not, it would be a disgrace to the community if those creatures should gain the suit.

What good news we are having from our Armies. Tis really cheering, if it only continues as good. From all accounts one would concur that we will be victorious in the end. But on the other hand there has been such a great loss of life that I feel more like mourning than rejoicing. How many anxious hearts are waiting afraid lest they may hear of their friends being lost to them forever.

Freeman said it would not be safe to send my letter until I heard from you again but I shall venture to do so now as Mary Bently had a letter from her brother Robert yesterday written from Parkersburg saying that you were going from there to New Creek. I know you will be anxious to hear from us at home and I should have written several times had I known you would receive my letters. I consider it a privilege and a pleasure to write to you when I am deprived of your society. I do hope you will not get sick but am afraid you will as you are not accustomed to exposure. Most everyone here thought you would come home in a few days but I had not such hope when you left home - knew you planned to spend the whole 100 days. When you write include all details of your journey, camp, manner of living as you know how interesting all that will be.

We have just heard that <sup>(12)</sup>Charlie has been wounded in his left hand. I sent to Mr. Stambaugh's for a Pittsburgh paper with a list of the wounded from Penn. Regiments and found his name in the 139th Reg. I was glad to hear that he had escaped with so slight a wound for I have felt dreadfully ever since the Potomac Army has been engaged for fear he might be suffering from want of care. There must be a great many such.

(12) Younger Brother of Emaline. Aged 20.

Freeman went over to Canfield Monday, has not yet returned. I hear they are having great times over there. A great number of our ladies have gone over and had you have been home I would have gone along but as it is I shall not go. Some think it will go hard with Packard. The Miblocks have turned state's evidence and telling all they know and more too. They have sworn that Packard got a pistol for Mrs. Park to carry, showed her how to shoot it and how to load it and that he was with the mob which the defendants say is not true. I shall look for a letter from you today. Write often.

Yours truly,

Emaline

Hen Bonnell, Rufus Manning and Dr. Elder are drafted.

1864 May 21 Youngstown

My Dear Husband,

I have not received a letter from you since you left Camp Dennison but I have heard thru others that you are at Martinsburg. A man from one of your Co's arrived here day before yesterday bringing several letters from the boys. Freeman saw him, said you were out on guard the night before he left in the rain. How much I have thought about you. To think you are way down there in Virginia in constant danger of guerrillas, out in the rain and mud, without any comfort. It sometimes seems that I cannot have it so, it seems so unnecessary. If there was not so much danger of your losing either your life or your health, I could endure the lonesome part very patiently. But you are certainly running too much risk for the satisfaction it will give you to serve your country when another man without a family would do as well as you and could not do as much at home. Mr. <sup>(13)</sup>Kimberly has been talking of getting

(13) Another Eagle Blast Furnace Employee.

a man and going down to where you are and bringing you home. Says he cannot get along very well without you. Father and Freeman have both advised him to do so. You know what I would say about it. Oh Myron do come home. Had I known what I now know, I would never have let you go from home, but I tried to look on the bright side all the while. I do not see any bright side now. I wrote you a long letter directed to New Creek to follow the Regt. Mailed it last Wednesday, hope you will receive it. I hope I shall get a letter from you today. Father has gone to Washington to bring Charlie home if he can get a furlough. He has been wounded in the hand and back tho his back, I believe, is not seriously injured, but his right arm is disabled. Gov. <sup>(14)</sup>Tod wrote a letter to the President for father to take with him. They will probably get home by the middle of next week if Charlie can come. If you were home I should feel very happy hoping to see Charlie so soon but it seems that nothing will give me much pleasure while I know you are in so much danger. I know that I do not feel right that I ought to trust that the same Providence that rules over us here will watch over you there, and that it is probably all for the best, or else it would not be so.

We are all well and have been since you left. The only news I know of is that the Ross girls gained their suit, the jury rendered a verdict of \$5000. against our side. I wrote you in the last letter how they had nearly all the ladies and half the men in town over to Canfield. I was not over. The verdict was against John Wick, Mr. and Mrs. Bonnell, Miss Caleb Wick and many others. Those that I have mentioned proved that they were not there but that is the way with the law. Our side are going to carry it to higher court. Emma Ross was the only case tried, her sister's suit will come off next court. This was a civil suit, the next will be a criminal.

I believe the furnace is doing very well. Mrs. Kimberly has been sick. Mr. K. has been down most

(14) Most important man in Youngstown - Governor of Ohio and Confidant of Lincoln.

all the week. She has a kind of dumb ague they think.  
(15) Father has blown out his old furnace, the new one  
is doing well. Do write me all particulars. Don't say  
you are well when you are not. I will write often when  
I know that you are receiving my letters.

Yours truly and affectionately

Emaline E. Arms.

P. S. Hattie often talks about you, says "you must  
come home and see your Hattie." She sends a  
kiss to her Papa.

I have just received a letter sent last Saturday.  
Such a long time in coming. Am glad to hear  
you are well. What a hard time you are having,  
how I wish I could share.

Sunday June 1864 June 5th Martinsburg, W. Va.

Dear Wife,

I wrote you on Wednesday but received your  
letter last night written on Wednesday. When called  
out on Dress Parade last night we received orders to  
report at Washington D. C. and shall leave today for  
that place. I think likely that we shall be called on to  
guard lines of communication from Washington out or  
in the defenses at that place. This was a sudden call  
and entirely unexpected. We are making calculations  
on staying here out 100 days out. We had not com-  
fortably fixed up in our lair, the boys call it. We shall  
be compelled to leave all of our little conveniences  
because privates cannot carry anything except what  
they carry in their nap sack, but your correspondent  
having some influence with some of our worthy officers

(15) Very profitable furnace at Mineral Ridge, a small  
Village outside Youngstown - Iron Ore ran out  
locally about 1863 and prompted Jonathan to pros-  
pect Northern Michigan. - See Page 63.

thinks he can manage to get some of his extra baggage  
in with theirs. Don't know but what we shall send back  
a box of extra things which cannot be taken along. I  
don't think I have even given you the names of my asso-  
ciates in our tent, they are as follows: George Bald-  
win, Corp. Myers. Tuck and his two sons we also had  
included in our tent, but they have been detached to do  
duty in one of the town hospitals. Mr. Baldwin is one  
of the best of men to hunt up little conveniences for the  
use of our tent and we are sorry to part with our quar-  
ters having just got almost everything to make it com-  
fortable.

My health is good in fact all the men in our com-  
pany are well. If we only get as healthy a location  
again I shall be satisfied -- as I think the only risk is  
to keep well. I assure you I shall let you know if I get  
sick at once. Either by letter promptly or by telegraph.  
You can rest easy that I am well unless you hear from  
me to the contrary. I do hope you will not worry about  
me but patiently wait the expiration of my 100 days,  
then I will, Providence permitting, join you again. In  
looking back over our sixteen years of married life I  
think I have experienced as much enjoyment in your  
society as is ordinarily allotted to a man in this world.  
At all events, I do feel and believe it was fortunate for  
me that you condescended to unite your future with  
mine because you have made my happiness the basis of  
your constant attention during the whole time. I have  
not done this or been the same to you, but I can assure  
you that it is not arisen from any such feeling at heart.  
I have always been true, although as I have written you  
before, do not at all times exhibit it properly. My  
pride and nature being entirely different from you, I  
know. But so it is and I cannot help it. Your disposi-  
tion is well suited to get along with mine in that respect  
-- If I had not devoted my whole time, attention and  
energies to business during my young days, I feel I  
should have been better suited to make your happiness  
but have neglected that part of my education. I am not  
playful and do not take that pleasure or consider it  
necessary as I should if I had been brought up different-  
ly. I know this is so, have felt it for the sixteen years  
last past. We are not simply created to work, strive,  
and devote every energy early and late to making



money. We should enjoy life better if suited or brought up to take the world as intended by our creator. It would have been much pleasanter for you to have been mated with some more favored person in that respect; but I am selfish enough to feel gratified that I am so favorably united, norwith standing I am a man that in comparison, your duties and troubles far exceed mine, in everything taking into consideration the rearing and trouble of children to say nothing about the pain and duty which Mother Eve entailed in all her --

Youngstown June 5th '64

My very dear Husband,

I continue to receive your letters regularly, which is a source of great comfort to me, am surprised that you have kept well thus far considering the great change in your habits I think it is remarkable yet I fear constantly lest I may hear some bad news from you. I shall endeavor though to worry as little as possible. Nearly a third of the time has passed that you were to be gone. I have lost all hope of getting you home until the end of the 100 days consequently I shall try to wait patiently until the end of that time, when I hope and pray that you may be permitted to return to us in health. If you should continue to be well, I have no doubt but that you will be stronger and healthier than ever you were before.

Several ladies with myself are intending to meet tomorrow to pack a box of provisions to send to you, and their friends who are with you. I shall put in a package directed to you, hope you will not give it all away. There are so many going to send that it will not be necessary. You will probably receive the box the last of this week. It will leave here Tuesday morning.

Freeman sent you those shirts last Wednesday. Louisa baked some ginger snaps for you, says "you must say a good word for her to some soldier boy down there" to pay for them. I told her that the soldiers were the kind to have, at least I have heard you

say so. She thinks I better look out, or the girls will all be running after my soldier when he comes home.

Charlie has been down once since I last wrote you. He came down last Thursday noon with Mothers carriage, all alone and returned the same evening. Jennie is at the Ridge yet. From your account of your daily exercise in drilling, I think you must be kept quite busy. Is it very tiresome? I see from the papers that one Regt. of O. N. G. volunteered to go into the front, and were accepted. I hope you will not think of doing so.

Freeman says he wishes himself with you every day, says he has been mad at himself ever since he came home that he did not stay with the boys. I think that most of the men who send substitutes are rather ashamed of it. Almost wish they had gone themselves particularly after they found you were determined to stay. Almost everyone thought you would come back after a week or two. There is no news, the children are all well and give me as little trouble as I could expect. The boys were hunting frogs yesterday, caught 48 and cooked them for their breakfast this morning. (16) Henry Manning and four others have been up to Coneaut Lake this last week fishing, returned last night. Henry brought us up a nice black bass. Ed did not go, could not leave business. I wonder if you are writing to me today. How I wish you could be here. Sunday is the most lonesome day when you are away. I have so much more time to think. It is as you say, that we need to be separated to know how to value each other's society and friendship. Oh Myron don't think for a moment that I can ever think of you as other than a kind affectionate and indulgent husband. You have ever been such to me while I have failed to often to do my duty. But of one thing be assured, I have always been true to you and ever shall be. May we look forward to a happy union again. Do not fear that your letters will be read by any one but myself, and be sure to let us know if you are at all sick.

I am as ever your true and affectionate wife - Emaline

(16) Henry Manning had married Sophia, Myrons Sister.



3rd June, Martinsburg, W. Va., 1864

My Dear Wife,

I have received all of your letters. The last one written on Sunday. They all come through very promptly. I also received one from your father and Wm. Kimberly yesterday, also one from Freeman. Am glad to hear all are well and the business matters moving along in general, well. My health is first rate. I continue to eat my bread, hard tack (by the way if ours is a sample it is first rate) boiled potatoes without any seasoning, fried or boiled pork with occasionally beans, rice together with some Milk Butter which we have the opportunity of purchasing in camp from the country people. All together what I may say is full and good living for soldiers and I think I may say with safety that if this diet is strictly adhered to in our healthy location, will bring our Battalion home with full ranks. Last time I was on picket was night before last. It was very warm during the day. Just at day break it commenced raining while I was on duty. We are on two hours and off four. After I came off I lay down with my rubber blanket and slept soundly for three hours, raining hard all the time. The only place I got wet was about the head and face, took no cold however and feel well. They commenced yesterday fortifying here by throwing up earth works. We have some 6 to 8000 troops here but some are moving out and some coming in daily. I think it was the best thing to call out the Guard in Ohio. It puts quite a large force in the field at once which would have taken all summer to have got out in any other way. This is just the time that men are needed. If Grant can have men, I think we can clean up the war this season. It is all important that it should be done as soon as possible. This is the cheapest way to wind it up.

I think I shall need a new pair of blue pants before the close of the 100 days. I wish I had got my blouse made at Freemans, the one I have is a mean thing. The outside is shrunk up and the lining hangs down below the shirt. If Freeman can get the cloth, a pair had better be made, want the right color. They can be sent forward in some package sent by some one sending one.

The nights here are very cool particularly toward morning. To sleep with two blankets over is not uncomfortable. The only thing lacking in that way is -- but I can't think of what I was going to say now. Will put it off until I see you.

Our company was detailed to sleep in town Monday night last, to be ready in case it was necessary during the night to be on hand. We (the privates) slept on the stone pavement with our heads on the curb stone for a pillow. I never slept better, of course we had our blankets. You see that I take to soldiering naturally think some of enlisting for 3 years after our 100 days, but would want a weeks furlough at home before I go in -- I don't think we should have an opportunity here of a shot at the enemy from present appearances, but times may alter before we get through.

I see R. McCinley and Jim Van Fleet every day and they are both well and hearty. There is not one on the sick list from our Youngstown boys. Nothing appears to give them more pleasure than to get letters. Some that do not get them, I feel sorry for. Their friends do not realize how important it is, if they did they would write. I shall continue to write semi-weekly. I hope you will do the same. Kiss all the children for me and farewell for this time.

Affectionately yours,

Myron

Washington, D. C. 6 June

My Dear Wife,

I arrived here this morning at 6 o'clock after a somewhat tedious night ride owing to our being packed into a baggage car without sufficient room to lay down. Consequently did not get any rest but feel pretty well considering. We left Martinsburg yesterday at 5 PM in the evening. We shall very likely remain here for the present at any rate. As yet we know nothing except by conjecture. We learn that the 150th (Ohio) Regt. is

to leave for the front and we may take their place. That Regt. is an extra drilled Regt. and is fit for any duty, while ours is what may be called a green one. It is probable that we may be called on to guard lines of communication from here part of the way out. Shall know better about it in less than a week.

After our arrival here we were marched down for breakfast consisting of coffee, boiled pork, and bread all of which I managed to consume. The country in the vicinity of Washington is quite poor. Of a sandy soil and apparently well worn out. Some parts of the country this side of Washington is very handsome. Fields of clover, wheat and rye and all look fine. But corn is only just up and looks backward for this must be at least 3 weeks earlier than ours in Ohio.

After our breakfast a party of us went up to the capitol. It is really a magnificent place. How I wish you could have been with me and went through. I would have felt much more pleasure if you had gone through with me. If spared we will, at some future time, look at it together. Camps are viewed all around the city. There must be a large force here as necessarily there should be. Coming here as a private soldier I cannot have the opportunity that I should if a citizen. In fact a private is ordinarily considered not the highest in rank although he may be head and shoulders above some who wear the straps not withstanding. I prefer the position I have to any that is in the company and consider it more honorable.

Mr. Orr is going to the office and is waiting for this letter. Direct letters here same as before - no doubt they will come through all right.

Affectionately yours,

M. I. Arms

Youngstown June 8, 1864

My Dear Husband,

I received your letter yesterday afternoon stating that you had moved from Martinsburg to Washington. I cannot tell you how I feel - am so fearful that you may be sent to the front. Think though that if you should remain near Washington it would be safer than Martinsburg. I was so surprised to hear you had changed, shall feel so uneasy until I know where you are stationed. Oh Myron, I could hardly think it possible for anyone to feel as I have felt much of the time since you left home. Sometimes I get along very comfortably, but at other times I feel such an uncertainty as regards the future. Such a mingling of hope and fear, can hardly express it. Dare not look ahead to the time when I can expect you home for fear something may happen to destroy the happy realization of all my hopes. I know I ought not to trouble you writing thus, but perhaps I shall feel better after telling you. You know I have always been in the habit of telling everything to you. Have always looked up to you as one capable of advising in every instance and now you are away, I miss you. Oh you do not know how much. At times everything looks dark and it seems there is no pleasure for me until you come back and every little thing that is said or done starts me to weeping. A few days ago I was feeling very badly while rocking Hattie to sleep. She asked me what I was crying about. I told her because I wanted Papa to come home. She looked up at me and said, "Don't cry Mama, Papa will come bye and bye, the naughty Rebels shant shoot my Papa." I suppose someone had been talking to her about the Rebels shooting you. I don't feel this way all the while, if I did I should be sick. We should trust in a divine Providence and hope that all is for the best. May God watch over you and keep you from harm.

I think you stand soldiering remarkably well. Would like so much to see you marching with your gun and knapsack. Should think you would fare more comfortably in Washington. Will you go to Maj. Williams? Charlie says you will find him at 299 G St. between 14th and 15th. Can't you put on your citizen's clothes when

you go out? As you say, privates are held in low esteem but it will make no difference about that where you are known. I suppose there are plenty of those shoulder strap fellows who are not worth speaking to.

I wrote you last Sunday, suppose it will be forwarded to you.

We got together last Monday and packed two boxes of provisions and directed them to you at Martinsburg. Wonder if you will ever get them. We had considerable sport over to Mrs. Van Fleet's where we packed them. Mrs. V. F. done up a small paper of tobacco and directed it to you - wrote on the outside, I glory in your spunk. Signed no name to it.

Charlie comes down every few days. They have plenty of horses so he can come and go whenever he pleases. Enjoys it first rate. His shoulder wound remains about the same and Dr. Barclay thinks he may not have the use of the arm for 1 year. Father will go to Washington with him. Will try to get him into a hospital as clerk. Charlie appears very much as he used to, as full of fun as ever.

Your affectionate wife,

Emaline

I can imagine what you have reserved to tell me when you come home.

Friday June 9

My Dear Wife,

I wrote you yesterday morning of our arrival here and that I expected we would march yesterday or this morning to the front but today I am pleased to say that we are to remain here perhaps permanently. We are about 12 miles from the left of Grant's army, can hear every discharge of artillery, but can get no very reliable news except camp rumors but all tend to show that Grant is making progress. The report is here

that this point is to be vacated and the bases of supplies changed to James River in order to unite the left wing with Butler's Corps in the rear of Richmond.

Richmond is South or better East of South. I cannot spend time at this time to write much but I feared that you would be somewhat alarmed about our situation. We expected yesterday to certainly to march today -- but perhaps our colonel is not any more of a fighting man than our Lt. Colonel and history says he cannot boast a great deal in that way at all events our regiment has been broken up into details for duty here -- which looks as though we are destined to remain here for awhile. Our detail is now pitching our tents but for what duty we don't know.

The regiment I am glad to say is in excellent health, but three came in the hospital, I believe. One of this is Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ of Wilson. He has the encephalopathy but is better this morning, a great deal, with a fair possibility of getting out soon. James Van Fleet has had the diarrhea but as says is a great deal better. Saw R. McCurdy a few minutes ago and is all right.

Have sent my valise back to Washington, J. C. Richards care of K \_\_\_\_\_ House to remain there if he remains there if not to be forwarded to Youngstown. Am sorry today that I done so because I could have used some of the things to good advantage but supposing yesterday that we were bound for the front I knew I could not take them.

I have an excellent appetite eat my daily rations of Pork, beans, hard tack, and coffee and feel well. Have sufficient work to make the fare palatable. I shall be physically better for this trip. I should be much pleased to see Grant's army as they are so near to that point, if he should succeed in taking Richmond, we may have the pleasure of being moved forward after the work is done. We should not deserve much credit in taking it, if left behind. But after all it may be more satisfactory to you. Will write you about trip and country when I get time.

Very affectionately,

M. I. Arms



11 June '64

My Dear Wife,

I wrote you yesterday and promised at the same time to write with particulars when I found time. We left Washington, D. C. on Tuesday morning by steamboat Spaulding, had a delightful ride down the Potomac to Chesapeake Bay, down Chesapeake Bay to the mouth of York River. Up York River to Westpoint. Then up the Pamunky to this point. The Potomac is larger than I supposed being a very wide, beautiful river. I saw Mount Vernon, it lies on the right side of the Potomac. Of course could not get a distinct view. The roofs of the buildings were red, it is situated on high ground in a beautiful grove. The Pamunky looks on a map to be a small stream but is navigable to this point for vessels drawing 11 feet water.—It is astonishing the amount of stuff necessary to supply this army. The river is full of vessels going and coming from Washington to this point. The country here is sandy soil with Springs coming out everywhere like they do at Ohio city. The water is very good and soft. This place is the place where the Widow Curtis lived when Washington married her. The chimney walls only remaining, the house having been destroyed during the war. The whole of the country in this vicinity has great historical interest. It would be very gratifying to travel over the country when Peace is declared. There are so many places worth visiting. Our camp here is a mixture of men, horses, mules, baggage, ambulances, wagons, constant streams of each arriving night and day. The United States Sanitary Commission have headquarters here with baggage wagon teams, agents and in fact everything calculated to relieve the sick and wounded at all times. Part of our Regt. was detailed to carry down wounded from the hospital tents to the boats to be transported back to Washington. They are carried on what are called stretchers and it is hard work. I was on other duty and did not get into that.

We have orders today to move from here to Butler's headquarters on the James River to a place called Bermuda Hundred, as soon as transportation can be had.

It may be 2 or 3 days or not over 24 hours before we shall start. Shall go by the way of the James River in transports -- am anticipating a pleasant trip there. Don't you think Emaline that we are in for the full bill of fare, Grant intends to change base of supplies from here to likely Hamsin Landing and it is expected that everything will be moved from here by Monday next to some point on the James River. Grant intends to extend his flank around in the rear of Richmond and keep Lee from retreating South. We are hearing artillery fire more or less every day and night.

Although I was never in a place that some news could not be had before this, I have not seen a newspaper since we left Washington and men who come forward here from the front are generally waggoners or drovers who are not in the front but in the rear of the army and fully six miles from the fighting and those who do come from the front do not report the news. So you see we are badly off as to knowing how the battle stands. You know daily more about the matter than we do.

I have received no letter from you since we left Washington. I expect you wrote one on Sunday, it will perhaps come tomorrow. Should be glad to receive it before we leave here. No more letters should be directed here. It may be best if you direct them to Bermuda Hundred in the future. I shall write you after my arrival there. Keep your spirits up and trust that Providence will watch over us and bring about what ever is the best.

I don't know why I should not as well bear my proportion of the dangers and hardship attending this war -- don't you think so? If Grant can succeed in these battles and take Lee's forces -- we may expect peace to follow I think at once. It seems that something decisive will turn up before long. We would not then be needed and would likely be sent home. If I can stand the climate and keep my health during my stay out, I should be satisfied. The sun is very warm in this latitude but is accompanied by sea breezes from the Chesapeake Bay which appear to temper the heat and make it more endurable.

Tide water flows up this point and above and the river will raise a great deal in a short time and then recede. You have noticed the rise and fall of the tide at N. Y. and understand the matter.

I suppose that letters sent to Washington D. C. to follow the Regt. will be forwarded on but don't know. At all events it will do harm for you to write and direct at random if you don't know where to direct.

I hope Warner and Myron will be good boys while I am gone and obey their mother in everything. Mary is old enough to know how to do that. Tell Em, Jennie, and Hattie that their Pa thinks often of them and all the rest. But my love is perhaps more on my mind than any one thing but our time will expire after a while, then I can see you again. Excuse the haste in which this is written. You can make it out however, I have no doubt. Farewell for this time -'

Affectionately yours,

M. I. Arms.

City Point June 18th

My Dear Wife,

I received your letter mailed on the 9th and directed to Washington this morning. We arrived here this morning and went into camp (as the colonel says permanently). I wrote you last at White House landing. We left that point on Tuesday last for Bermuda Hundred by steamer. We went down the York River to Chesapeake Bay, down Chesapeake Bay to the James River, up said river to Fort Powhatan when we found Grant's pontoon bridges thrown across and his troops and artillery, cavalry, and baggage passing over. They had been crossing since early in the morning. We arrived about 3 PM on Wednesday, laid on the boat that evening and disembarked the next morning at Fort Powhatan. We could not wait for the taking up of the bridge as it was expected Grant's forces would not be over for a couple of days which proved to be the case. I send en-

closed a map cut from the Philadelphia paper.

We started with heavy knapsacks from said point overland across the country for Bermuda Hundred. Marched that afternoon about eight miles. I was very tired at night. I sweat very freely so much so that my drawers and undershirt could be wrung out. I changed my drawers and shirt that evening. Next morning took off my drawers and put them in my knapsack. The next forenoon we marched nine miles to City Point and took a steamboat across the river to Bermuda H. Marched out into the country about 1 1/2 miles and camped. Got orders last night to return to City Point and go into the defenses here as we learn permanently. This is a very strong post and well entrenched and withall a very pretty spot, situated high with groves of trees through out the town. We took the place of a regiment which was ordered to the front. There has been a very heavy battle going on at Petersburg since yesterday morning. The firing of the artillery (and even musketry in the night) is plainly heard. It continues this morning very near. I hear our forces have met with some success by getting possession of some of the enemy works. Lee no doubt has a large force there, having transferred them during the time Grant was changing his base, from Richmond.

I think perhaps this battle of Petersburg is going to be decisive. If Lee gets whipped will fall back south instead of toward Richmond. But little idea can be had of the immense amount of everything necessary to carry on this campaign. I have seen myself more by this trip, more than I should likely to have if I had been sent a year in any other time. Our March yesterday was within eight miles of Petersburg while the fight was going on. I don't think they intend to put any of the 100 days up at the front and it is as safe there as any other place. Do not Emaline give yourself so much trouble about the danger. The chances you see if we were in a battle are largely in our favor of coming home safe. Besides I do not anticipate being engaged in one. Older regiments are being forwarded to the front and we, the 100 day men, are filling their places for garrison duty but if necessary you would not want me to flinch from what would be my duty as a common

private. I can assure you that I shall not uselessly expose myself in that way. I have other duties to fulfill at home, a dear wife and children at home who may claim that I should not expose myself unnecessarily.

You say that Freeman is sorry that he did not come along. He is better at home. I do not want him to think of coming out while I am away from home. I received a letter from Mr. K. I have no time at present to answer. Say to him that I am glad to hear the furnace is doing well. I have no doubt that he will see to this matter as well as myself. My health so far is good. I have stood the marches as well as most of the company. Very few in our company are complaining and none sick so as to be in the hospital. We all take good care of ourselves. The box you spoke about sending here never came but I should get it sooner or later, I think. You will direct all letters to this place henceforth. They will follow the regiment if we move.

Don't know if you can read this or not. It is written on my knee and hand. The artillery firing at this time 2 PM, is from different points. Today will show a tremendous battle in this vicinity about 12 or 15 miles off. We can hear the volleys of musketry across the common.

I shall write you tomorrow unless I am on duty so that I cannot, but let me hear from you often and believe me your very affectionate husband.

M. I. Arms

16 June

My Dear Husband,

I received your letter from White House saying you thought you probably should remain there for a while. I have not yet received the letter you say you wrote the day before saying that you had been ordered to the front. There seems to be carelessness of the P.M. somewhere for some of your letters have come from Washington in 36 hours while others have been

four days. I think you are already quite near the front. It is useless for me to say that I have felt very badly for a few days past. I felt bad enough when you left Martinsburg but you know all about that, and you know that is impossible for me to feel otherwise until you return. God grant that you may return safe.

The Trumbell Co. men were sent from Johnson Island to protect the borders from a raid that was anticipated by Morgan and his men. It was reported that they were near Cincinnati. Our men had an encounter with him which resulted in most of them (our men) being captured, 8 or 10 killed, and 50 wounded. Mr. Kinsman's son of Warren was killed. Jane Rayen's brother and Moss Powers (a daughter of Eddy Moore's) son is wounded, their friends have gone to them. You know we have felt so sorry that our men were not sent to Johnson's Island. This shows how short sighted we are. Perhaps you are safer where you are. God only knows.

We received the blankets and gun you sent home Monday evening. I wish you could have seen our boys when they got the gun. Bob (Warner) particularly, he went down to the store to see what you had sent, a short time later he came home with the gun over his shoulder and the blankets hanging on the end of the gun. He just jumped up and down when he got in the house after examining it over and over. Said he had notion of wrapping himself up in the blankets, take the gun and go into the yard to sleep just to see how it would seem. I thought when I saw the blankets that they were the next thing to yourself, thought some of taking them to bed with me, wonder if there would have been any danger in doing so. According to what I have heard you say perhaps there would be.

It is too bad that you have not your valise with you. Could not you have sent it on to where you are? But if you should move about much it would be troublesome. There is another draft to come off soon. Some one told me that Paul Wick yesterday hired a man as a substitute for himself in case he should be drafted. I suppose he is afraid that man might be scarce when he might want one. Freeman says that he thinks Paul



would give \$10,000. before he would go into the army. Mr. Kimberly left a letter for me to direct to you and says the furnace is running along about as usual. I suppose he has written everything concerning business.

I fear sickness more where you are now, than I did at Martinsburg. You must be very careful. Be sure to telegraph if anything is wrong. You ought to have some good whiskey and quinine. I sent you some quinine in my last letter. You did not tell me how to direct, suppose I know though. Ma and Charlie came down yesterday to stay most of the week. Ma said she had to come along to tend to Charlie.

I presume where you are now, you will have an opportunity of seeing a great deal that you could not know, if you had remained where you were and will of course be a great satisfaction if you should be spared to come home. Suppose you have to work pretty hard. Mr. Taylor wrote home that you were looking quite thin for you, but healthy. Nearly half of the time has passed that you were to be gone. I shall try to keep up good courage and patiently wait for brighter days. Believe me I am only yours and yours truly Emaline.

Perhaps it may prove to be a good thing for you and I that your Col. is not a "fighting man." I have written this letter in a great hurry to get it into the mail this morning. We hear that our men that Morgan took prisoners have all been parolled. Charlie says that a parole will not be accepted from a guerrilla. There were so many that came in last night to hear what you had written. They had not received letters since you left Washington.

19 June '64 City Point, Va. Sunday

My dear wife:

I wrote you yesterday on our arrival here. Today being Sunday and having some leisure time concluded to put it in, writing you.

On closing my letter yesterday there was a heavy

battle going on at Petersburg. The firing appeared to come out towards this point. We could distinctly hear the volleys of musketry. After an extra quantity of both artillery and musketry some of our boys who were out at the breast works say they distinctly heard cheering after which it ceased. We learned after that Burnside's had fallen back towards this point about two or three miles in order to deceive the rebels. Then Mead swung in between them and Petersburg and that Petersburg had surrendered. Whether correct or not I don't know, for the reason that the camp is full of rumors first one thing and then another. If I hear before I close this will add in a P. S.

We cannot be over 15 or 20 miles from Petersburg. I was to enclose a map yesterday in my letter but forgot to do it - will put it in this. I will trace from the point where we disembarked to this point showing the route we marched. We went, you see, within 8 or 10 miles of Petersburg during the first day of attack. Our course lay on the Petersburg road part of the way. It was full of marching columns, artillery baggage wagons, ambulances, etc. Since last night everything is spread all around. You see we are in a position to hear every discharge of artillery in the Richmond vicinity. Consequently keep posted when anything is going on. Although as I said before the poorest place to find any reliable news. You will no doubt get the main part of the news by telegraph at hour before we do even here judging from our past experience. The reason is that those who know the result at the front do not tell it while all teamsters and cavalry men are hardly ever within 2 to 5 miles off the battle ground and they are the only ones if we except the wounded who are coming in. I just learned that Wm. Beity (a young fellow who used to live with P. Wick) has just arrived in our camp from Petersburg. He was wounded in one of his fingers, had his canteen also hit but otherwise uninjured. He left there yesterday. Thinks we took the place just after he left.

You will notice that we are in a county hereabouts which is the oldest or has been settled the longest. The point where we landed, Fort Powhatten they say is the very spot where Capt. Smith was saved by

Pocahontas. At all events the fort was built on the ruins of an old fort. The trip here by Fortress Monroe was delightful. We saw quite a large number of vessels. They were lying by or near the fortress. Numerous gun boats. One Ram, said to be the Ram Atlanta captured of the Rebels. I think at the Savannah River. She was a boat built something like the Monitor only sharp at both ends and I should think well calculated to sink any ordinary vessel. My load on our march consisted of my knapsack, blanket, rubber blanket, woolen shirt, drawers, camp tent, haversack, canteen, woolen and rubber overcoat, gun and equipment with 35 rounds of cartridges, altogether made a pretty good load. It was very warm weather and very dusty owing to the large amount of men and material on the road. I saved all my clothes though, towards night the first day (we left at noon) I was pretty well walked out but not any more so perhaps than any other man in the company. A great many strong men fell out of ranks. The want of water on some parts of the way was the worst. The second day we did better - got started by 6 AM, arriving at the point where we took the board for Bermuda Hundred at noon. Arrived at Bermuda Hundred (it is only a mile or a mile and a half across the river) marched out and camped, stayed thru the night, and were ordered back here next morning. I think the march did me good. I felt well, only tired and sweating so freely done me good and I think I may say the same for the whole regiment, staying on the boat for two days and being inactive with the river water to drink, which is more or less impregnated with salt water by the tides which flow up once every 24 hours, was more unhealthy than the march.

George Baldwin who now tents with me alone and has done so since the beginning in company with others is the best man in the company to get together some things to eat and other little things for our comfort. he can stand any amount of marching and fatigue, is out after on a scout for extras. Am indebted to him for numberless favors. You know I am poor hand at cooking and hunting up conveniences or providing. I was called out while writing this to help build a road from the landing to the hospital tents yesterday. I resume this, this morning. While out came across

some mulberries in the woods we were cutting down. They tasted the best of anything I have had lately. This place is situated high and almost surrounded with water as you see by the map. Springs coming out of banks all around, of good water. The whole country here was sowed and planted. It is not all \_\_\_\_\_ to commons. Wheat is ready to cut but is of course all \_\_\_\_\_ and will never be harvested. Corn is very favored but our cattle are turned in and in fact no crops can be available to the rebels in this vicinity.

Robert McCurdy and James Van Fleet are in good health and spirits.

We have plenty to do here. The wounded from Petersburg commenced coming yesterday morning. We have suffered a heavy loss in the four or five day fight there. It must necessarily be so as our men had to attack entrenched units I learn, several lines deep. They say the Rebels will not stand out to a fair fight nor will they stand and charge. It is not probable as I learn today that Petersburg is yet taken although we have taken a portion of their works, I feel sanguine of taking the city - I am ordered out on company drill.

I expect a letter from you today. We are, I think getting all letters written. They being forwarded on to the Regiment wherever they move. I feel very thankful that my health continues good. This would not be a very pleasant place to be sick in owing to the large number of men wounded who are sent to this point for treatment and shipment.

Would like very much to see you all, particularly on Sunday not that that day is any different in the army, but I have generally been at home all day on that day and you write you are more lonesome on that day than on any other. I do really wish, Emaline, that you will try and feel as cheerful as possible for your own good. We have not as yet and the probabilities are shall not be placed in any very dangerous position. The main thing is to keep well and I can assure you that I make that a point to guard against anything liable to make me unwell. I think from the reading of your letters that you worry yourself too much.



I hope when I come home to find your health and strength renewed.

I have strung out quite a long letter here for me. There are great many things I could write about. No difficulty in hunting items.

On reflection I think it best for Freeman not to send any clothes. All of our company got theirs as dirty as mine and it would not look well on comparison to have one new suit in the company.

Affectionately truly yours,

M. I. Arms

Excuse the dirt on this - everything is dirty that we touch except our bodies which we wash daily if we have time.

City Point, June 24th

My Dear Wife:

I received your letter written Sunday 19th today and have read all that you have written in all probability. They are sent on to the regiment from Washington. We have not received the boxes sent by our Youngstown friends, but are trying to get them soon if possible.

We are yet as you see at City Point, not yet at the front. Of our future we know nothing but think we shall remain here or some other place like it. You have discovered in this that Petersburg is not yet ours and some sharp fighting will have to be done before we get it. I think if I am spared to get back I shall remain at home insomuch as you desire it. Our 100 days are about half over as the boys say here. Some of them are counting them daily as they pass. James Van Fleet has got well again also R. McC. is in good health. Besides, I may say the same with the whole battalion. Not now knowing of anyone who is seriously sick. Some few have the diarrhea, but get

over it in a few days. I still remain well and continue to eat my rations with the rest. I have some money left over, about \$20. I have been pretty liberal with it since I left. Have lent some and want to be in condition to continue to do so to any from our place. You may say to Freeman and Kimberly to let you have a \$20 note and enclose it (green back) in one of your letters to me. I wrote Mr. K and your father this week and you a good long letter. Shall continue to write you of course - could not help it. I think of home, yourself and the children as often no doubt as you all are thinking of me here. Have not dreamed a dream that I recollect in the morning since I left which doctors would say would indicate sound health. You can rely that I shall be careful of my health as possible. Rather think I shall stand exposure hereafter better than I did before I left home. The weather here this week has been extremely warm and no rain having fallen here for a long time. Yesterday and today it has been extra hot with no breezes to temper it. Tho this lying on a tidal river always has more or less air moving. I took off my red woolen shirt yesterday, now only have one shirt on. Those shirts had shrunk up considerably owing to my lack of knowledge in washing them. We cannot get anything washed here unless we do it ourselves. George Baldwin acting as bosswasher and myself as assistant such as getting fire ready, pouring in the water.

Mr. B. made an arrangement with a captain of a cavalry company who was moving out to get his tent or rather the wood part of it which consists of a good board floor and sides about 10 feet high -- by pulling our dog tents over the top we have what the boys call an extra good "shebang" and are very comfortable in it. R. Miller, Geo. Baldwin, Jess Hamilton and myself are the only occupants. We also got two rough wood settees with the bench part raised like one at home with two duffle sacks filled with hay for ticks (which I have been allowed owing I suppose to my being considered the weakest one) to occupy at night while Baldwin and R. Miller bunk down on the floor. We bought a few figs, a ham, and some tea and a few other extras at the post commissary here so you see we are far from being confined entirely to our hard

tack and pork. We generally wash ourselves in the James R. at least every other day and so far have kept clear of those vermin called "grey backs" which all admit is nearly impossible to avoid when camping in areas occupied by other troops.

Pa wants to see you and all the children very much and hopes that all of them will be good and dutiful. You need not fear that I will not get your letters. They will follow the regiment so do write me as they are my greatest pleasure - Good bye now, very affectionately

Myron

City Point, Va. Sat. June 25/64

My Dear Wife,

I wrote you this morning. This is about 1 PM and the warmest weather I have yet experienced. We are doing nothing however today but lying idle in our tents trying to find the coolest by shifting from corner to corner but everywhere it is warm. Clouds of dust fill the air from the excessive large amounts of baggage trains and other moving animals of all kinds. Today is Saturday. Do you know it is difficult for me to tell the day of the week. Sunday passes by the same as any other day here. I have often to reflect some time to see whether it is the first or latter part of the week. We had a pretty good dinner today which consisted of tea, coffee, pork, dried peaches, potatoes, hard tack, and a small amount of jelly brought in by one of the boys who had been waiting on wounded at the hospital. We also bought some hams today but concluded not to cook any for this meal. The army has plenty of rations generally of the good wholesome kind except perhaps at times when on a march or some accident prevents the supplies from coming up. No inhabitants live in this beautiful spot, they having left for Richmond. The same is the case in the country occupied by our troops. I have not seen a woman since I left Washington if I except occasionally one of the nurses who stay at the hospital quarters and only two or three of them. The only kind of people we see outside of soldiers on the cantonments, there may be some few inhabitants here -

not many. My duties do not call me in any part of the city (I say city - it is only a small place) consequently could not see anything going on.

Our mail comes in every afternoon at 4 o'clock by boat and we then get a Washington daily paper of the day before, and our letters - we dream and dwell on the contents and think of home and those we love there till the next arrival. Speaking of ladies, I cannot say from my experience at Martinsburg that I am very favorably impressed with the good lovely and lady like manners (as the school boy would say) of the Virginia fair sex as McMurray told his wife, have not been tempted or had my desires raised by their fair proportions yet. Not that I am not mortal like other men but their manners and appearances have not been ravishing. They no doubt have their "ducks" like other women and have likely raised their proportion of children or we should not have such a hard fight down here. No doubt there are beautiful and ravishing women here as well as in Ohio only I have not had the pleasure of seeing them. If I had been an officer, I might have had, since their privileges are greater than mine. I only speak of the privileges of officers generally not referring to ours. There is quite a step between a lieutenant and a high private. If I had had some of their privileges would have been able to give you an entire different opinion perhaps could have went about you know and perhaps seen a great many things which would have changed my opinions which I have so hastily written down here. But as present seen will let them pass as a high private's opinion of the females in old Virginia. I really have no business thinking anything about these women or any of their charms. This is an acknowledgement of weakness that I have written the foregoing consequently shall throw myself on your mercy and expect forgiveness for having any thoughts on the subject at all and will plead as an excuse the number of days I have been out among the barbarians.

You write that Mr. K. wants me to bring him a black boy. I cannot, I have no opportunity to take one here. I may when I get back to Washington, get one there not that they are not plentiful but have no way to

care for one in my present situation.

Heard today that the boxes were divided up among the sick and wounded at Martinsburg. If so they will do some good. We would have been glad to have some of them. No one has any business out this way except U. S. Army and nothing is brought here except for their purposes. Write me as often as you can - very affectionately yours

Myron I. Arms

City Point, Va. June 28, '64

My Dear Wife:

We learn this morning that we are going to leave here for Norfolk Va. Shall likely leave within 24 to 36 hours - by directing to Washington, the letters will go to the Regt. wherever they may be sent. I received a letter from you last night mailed at Youngstown on June 24th. We get all letters from you in 3 or 4 days. I think they ought to go from here in the same time. You see that no calculations can be made of our being permanently located at any special place. There is one advantage in our moving about, it gives us an opportunity of seeing a great deal and hearing some. They say the place is very desirable at all events you have the satisfaction of knowing that we are not within six miles of our fighting lines but whether in any safer place or not time will tell. We hear daily artillery firing from all points. Some of it is quite heavy. We are here about 15 miles on an air line from Richmond and about 9 or 10 from Petersburg. Nothing decisive is made out at Petersburg yet unless it was last night - very heavy fighting was going on there.

I am pleased to say that I remain in good health. Have taken off my undershirt and wear just one shirt now and no drawers. Have not taken off my clothes except to wash since I left. Sleep in them and shall continue to do so if I am spared until I get home. Will take them off then and put on some clean ones. Don't mean to say that I do not put on clean shirts but my pants are very dirty. My coat and vest is

"ditto." Once in 2 or 3 days I wash from my head to my feet. Have kept free of the body lice (is that the way you spell it) cannot hardly expect to escape them though taking into consideration that we always go into old camps. It is a common occurrence here to see soldiers with undershirts off examining them for the article - generally successfully.

Our company drill comes off in a few minutes. Don't think I shall have time to write this out. I want to send it in the morning mail - our mail comes here once a day at 9:00 AM and leaves here at 5 PM once a day. I shall have to close now - will write you again today when I have time it will go out tomorrow morning.

Yours affectionately

M. I. Arms

City Point, Va. 10 AM June 28 '64

My Dear Wife,

You will see that I have taken up my pencil to finish out my letter which I broke off so suddenly and sent you when called out for drill this morning. I was anxious to advise you by today's mail of our moving from here to Norfolk unless our orders are countermanded before we get started you will see by this time that we are known as the moving Regiment, the U. S. being bent on our seeing as much as possible during our time.

I write none scarcely except what I write you. I make this apology for my numerous epistles to you. I rather expect you scarcely get time to finish reading one before another comes to hand and it must be very tiresome to make them out but you see I have nothing else to do after I get off duty. Some men play cards and checkers but having no passion for such recreation time hangs heavy. Think best to try to do something. I cannot say we are doing the government very much good. Although likely taking the place of other men who are at the front. We are doing what the military considers necessary such as marching guard in front



of officers tents back and forth all day and night but for what purpose never could tell. Have often thought of the idea (when doing some such duty) that a person who had the amount of business at home to attend to that I have to be spending days in front of some mess tent and presenting arms to any and every man with shoulder straps or going out with say 20 others to dig sink holes, but it is necessary that all such duty I suppose should be performed. Don't read that part of this letter to anyone. I don't complain. I would rather be a private as far as the honor was concerned. Only in the army among strangers they are not considered men generally above ordinary mortals. I am well satisfied so far only I feel constantly the U. S. may not be getting out of me what she ought to. I feel as though in the amount of good rations and pay - we are not doing their equivalent. But enough on that score. Would advise Freeman not to join the army if he has such a notion. It would be better for him to remain at home. I write this for the reason you wrote me he was sorry he did not come along last May and perhaps he may be thinking of going in.

I think I shall be physically benefitted by coming out also my mind has been relieved from the routine of business which I have increasingly pursued for so long a time, if it should not have the effect of making me lazy and inattentive to it on my return, shall believe that some good is done in that way if in no other.

I write you to send me some money enclosed in a letter. I have only about ten dollars and the boys are getting out and want small sums which I want to accommodate them with if it is possible. I don't think there would be much risk in sending it in a letter directed to my address c/o Capt. Whitaker 155 O. N. G., Washington or via Washington. They know there where all the regts. are without doubt, and when they are moved.

Speaking of Warner wanting to be doing something. I think best that he should get older before thinking of putting him at work. He will have opportunity enough to earn something when the proper time arrives. I hope that all the children will obey you and make little

trouble to you as possible. You have decidedly the worst end of it. The little cares of a household together with a womans other duties are perplexing enough and lucky is the man who gets one that will get along with them like you. That is not flattery, nor is it intended in that way. It is only due to you. You are blessed with one of the best dispositions and are well calculated to get along with me and I appreciate it. Consequently it is no sin to admit it. Is it?

I suppose each man thinks his wife the best. That is right, this world could not get along without that feeling. Providence has ordered all things for the best, and in the end will bring out all things as they should be.

Speaking of dreams, I have not dreamed but once that I could remember in the morning, and that was on my 15th day out, or fifteenth night rather. I would like to write you by detail what it was, but will not at this time. I will only say I dreamed of being in familiar rooms in the state that Adam was before the fall (the weather has been exceptionally hot here for some time) when I was surprised by the appearance of some one I well knew who was habited in a similar manner. I have only to remark that the dream made a great impression on me and I could scarcely keep it from my mind for several days. It had the effect to make me quite homesick, if that would express the idea. But enough of this. Do write me often when you feel like it, and don't put it off. I don't expect much news, but you can write your thoughts. We all keep thinking all the time. We are not writing for the newspaper consequently don't make any excuses if it is not as fashionable as it should be. We are not writing for others and we can say what we please and put it into any shape we please knowing that all errors will be overlooked. I suppose that some parts of my letters are read or heard by others but hope that some parts are not read or heard; though I do not recollect much at this time that could not be made public, but I write mainly for your eyes and ears. Remember that some of yours (I forgot to say ours) are large enough to read some. Don't leave them carelessly about. You can of course write me

anything here. No one sees or even thinks of seeing your letters, consequently no reserve is necessary on your part.

When you write please mail at once, I notice sometimes two days from your date and the date of posting from the office.

Kiss all the children for me and believe me truly and very affectionately yours

M. I. Arms

Sunday June 26

My very Dear Husband,

This has been a very hot day. I think as much so as any that I have known. How can you endure the heat where you are, it must be much hotter there than here. I think of you oh so much of the time, but do hope that you won't be sick. I expected a letter from you yesterday but was disappointed. Suppose there will be some irregularity in the mails now from where you are, your other letters came through from City Point in four days. I wrote you immediately on receipt of it. Have written twice a week, Sunday and Wednesday, as heretofore and directed to follow the regt. We are all well.

I believe we have not much news, only the 7th Regt. is expected home sometime this week. There is to be a reception for them I think, soon after they return. We expect your mother and Aunt Mary to come home this coming week. Your mother writes that she feels anxious to be here where she can hear from you, says Foster's wife has a young son. That must be quite an event for them.

Emma has been visiting at the Ridge the last week, will stay another week. I presume that Charlie (Warner) has been to Painesville several days, do not know whether he has returned or not. He expected to bring Josephine home with him. Where he is at the Ridge he drives down here about every other day. Seems to enjoy himself first rate. Poor fellow he has

to put another year in the Army yet, though I do not feel he will be able to go into active service in the field, his arm is stiff and lame, otherwise he is perfectly well.

Fifty days have passed, just half of the time. I shall soon begin to live in expectation of your coming home. Every Sunday evening that comes around reminds me forcibly of the many happy hours we have spent together. I really think we have enjoyed each other's society as much as any two can, have always thought that few enjoy another's society as I have yours. Have sometimes thought I loved you too fondly, that something would happen to take you from me; but again I do not know that a wife could love a husband too much unless she neglected duties in consequence that every one owes to their Maker. How apt we are to neglect those duties. I feel that I am greatly behind, that I do very little comparatively, and yet how many blessings I am constantly receiving, and so unworthy. Oh, how I long to see you, you will not think of going out again, will you? If you only come safe, we may yet look ahead to many more happy days in each other's society. I feel that you have been a kind, true, and affectionate husband to me, and when I look around me and see the misery and distress of all kinds, I think that up to the time you left home, our home was "one among a thousand." That I have been highly favored, we cannot expect unalloyed happiness in this world. Every one must have more or less trouble, we probably had much less than our share.

How much suffering you must witness. I suppose the wounded are brought in from Grant's army to where you are. I do not suppose it is the intent of the government to put the 100 days men into the front yet. Grant may be forced to call on you before your time is out. I trust that no harm will befall you.

Freeman thinks there will be a large draft soon and that every man that is drafted should go. In that case the war would soon be closed. Prices are running up enormously. Prints 35 to 40 cts., sugar over 30 cents/lb. and everything else in proportion.

Hattie (Mrs. Booth) has been playing around me most of the time since I commenced writing, when you write, tell me everything you have to do. All little particulars. You know they will be interesting to me. Now good nite and remember that I am ever your true and aff. wife, Emaline.

Camp Bomer Hill - 7 miles from Portsmouth

June 27th

My Dear Wife,

In the absence of anything to do at this time I embrace the present time to write you again although I wrote you yesterday from our camp near Norfolk. We received orders to report at Portsmouth yesterday afternoon, that place is just across the river from Norfolk. We then took cars and came out here to this post as we suppose only for three days'as we were ordered not to take our knapsacks or tents and only three days rations. We are only two companies out of the Regt., the balance remaining in camp. We suppose we were sent here in place of some two cavalry companies who are out on a raid at some point towards Petersburg. Our present camp is quite pleasant taking into consideration the general face of the country hereabouts. The country is generally low, level, and sandy. Grown up with low scrubby bushes with an occasional piece of tilled land put in corn or oats. With some wheat briar bushes are plenty. I believe they are a poor sign of cultivation in any country. The white population is well cleaned out particularly the male portions. The females are here to some extent. (I haven't seen any of them) and a great abundance of negroes old and young. This country is celebrated you know, for raising negroes. That was the main dependence the economy had for their support. They bred them as we did our cattle. A good breeder being rated in value at the most money and they were resold in other Southern States.

Our post lies on the RR to Norfolk but only runs seven miles to a burnt bridge from here.

We had some fine new potatoes yesterday, quite

large. At Norfolk there is a large market of any kind of vegetables but I have purchased none as yet. George Baldwin brought me yesterday from picket post a cup of nice berries and some few onions which were very palatable.

He made arrangements to have me go out with him and get some mulberries and cherries which were in great abundance near here but were ordered to march by another route which broke up our "party." We came down here without knowing just where we were coming and brought no conveniences along at all. We only supposed we were going to town to do duty there a day or two. We had very good luck here to get into a log hut of some Lt. who is out on the raid or we should have been in poor circumstances to resist a heavy storm which we all knew was coming up. It passed by without noticing us after all. The weather here has been remarkably dry for a long time, likely it is healthier than with a long wet season. Our men all keep very well with the exception of some little diarrhea none of which however have I had. My appetite is excellent often too good. I want to be eating all the time. Have indulged in some cheese and old fashioned gingerbread and got our Lt. Silliman to get in a pint of whiskey of the sutter. None but officers can drink anything stronger than water. They can get too much occasionally. As the condition of our Colonel yesterday attested. None of our Co. officers have this problem. Needless to say the privates do not have the problem either.

We left City Point a week Tuesday and I expect when we get letters I shall get more than one. You will address all letters to Norfolk to follow the regiment.

At this post two of the officers have their wives with them. Two very lady like women they are. It seemed good to see two ladies of our kind of people out here. How would you like to be sent away where you wouldn't see any men for sixty days - If you can you will realize how we are beginning to feel. I have given up shaving and suppose I look as rough as the very worst. Shall remain so for my entire stay unless



I change my mind. You wouldn't know me in my present costume. My coat and pants pretty well greased up. My hands, face and neck well tanned. I wear no neckerchief but wear my simple woolen shirt open at the neck as do all common soldiers. I think I rather overdo the thing of dirty clothes with one exception. I have my woolen shirt washed often and my body washed each day or two. Don't have any vermin yet that I have discovered. Good by this time, my sheet is filled up and I have only room to add your very affectionate

Myron

Sunday Eve July 3, 1864.

My Dear Husband,

This being Sunday, I had intended to write you a good long letter; but it is now past 10 o'clock and this is the first I have had time to write. There has been someone in all the afternoon. I attended church this morning. Carrie being confined to bed makes me some extra care. Your mother and Aunt <sup>(17)</sup>Mary arrived here yesterday forenoon - tomorrow being the fourth. I suppose we will go to the Ridge. Your mother will stay with Carrie. Father and Ed have been making calculations to have us come up sometime while Charlie is at home, and tomorrow is the day they set some time ago. I think I would rather stay at home and spend part of the day in writing to you than to go, but the children will enjoy it and I have concluded to please them as all the rest are so anxious to have me. It will be more a day of sadness to me than rejoicing to think that you are so far away from us, not knowing where.

Oh Myron I sometimes think I cannot have it so. That I must see you, a year ago now I little thought of you being in the Army. No I never thought you would go. If you are but spared to return to us I will never regret it.

(17) Mary wife of Foster B. Arms, Sodus Bro. of Israel.

I received another letter from you yesterday, saying you expected to go to Norfolk. It appears to me that that is a much better place than where you have been staying although I would not be able perhaps to judge correctly. You will certainly have the advantage of sea breezes and will be farther away from the fighting. I have felt very, very anxious about you lately feeling that you might be called into the front. It seems to me that Norfolk used to be a Summer resort for the Southerners. Perhaps you will have a chance while there to change your opinion in regard to the females of Virginia, for I suppose it is a large place and you will see more of them than you have before.

We heard last eve that Henry Baldwin is mortally wounded. He has been under Col. Wilson in that great cavalry raid through Virginia where so many miles of railroad was torn up. The 6th cavalry suffered a great deal they say. Poor fellow his time would have been out this fall.

I saw Mr. Corsell in church today, he is home on a short furlough. It made me feel so badly to see him that I could not refrain from weeping in church. He looks well I think. I would like to see and talk to him before he leaves though he doesn't know as much about you as I know.

Charly Arms told me today that Gov. Tod had told him that when he was in Washington a week or two ago, he talked to Mr. Taylor about you and thought of getting you excused and sending for you to come home. Mr. Taylor told him he thought you would rather stay. I hear every day something about your good deeds, that someone had written home to their friends about. This is very gratifying to me.

I have written more than I thought I should but am afraid you cannot read it. Please excuse this poorly written letter. I will try to do better with the next one. Will write when I come home from the Ridge. I wrote you three letters last week, in one enclosed \$20.00. Write me all the particulars and believe me to be your true and affectionate wife,

Emaline Arms.

Sunday afternoon, July 10, 1864

My very dear Husband,

This has been a lonesome day as usual. How I would like to know just where you are and what you are doing, even that would be a great satisfaction. Time is passing away, every day counts and it will not be long before I can say your time is almost out. So you think that you will be allowed to return at the end of 100 days? It seems to take so long for soldiers to get home after their time of service has expired. So long to be mustered out even when they are near home. I have counted about two weeks more than your time so that I shall not be disappointed. That will bring your time of getting home about the first of September. That looks like a good long time yet, but if you can only come home safe, I can patiently wait.

I saw John Stambaugh, his wife, and two children riding by a few moments ago. It made me feel so badly. Oh you know I could not help feel for a moment that you could just as well be home enjoying the society of your family as to be so far from home enduring hardships of every kind; exposed to so much danger and without any comforts. I know Myron that your motives in going were noble and good, and feel that you will meet a just reward. I know it is not right for me to fret so badly, if I can help it, consequently I have tried of late to look on the bright side and feel, if possible, cheerful. Sometimes my loneliness comes over me so forcibly that I can hardly throw it off. I ought not to write this to you had I, but you know I have always said that I could not keep anything from you. Now I presume I shall feel better.

Then our family all met at <sup>(18)</sup>Hannah's yesterday afternoon to tea. They were all there but you. Aunt Mary you know is here. She has not been at our house

(18) Wife of C. D. Arms youngest brother - worked for Myron - had been a Stone Mason in Sodus. Very strong and tough. Never bested in fight. Became very wealthy owning 20% of Smuggler Mine in Aspen, Col. in 1893.

to stay yet, is coming here next week. She sends her love to you. Said she would love to see you. Will probably return home in 2 weeks. Charlie (Warner) will be out the 25th of this month. Dr. Barclay tells father that he can get his furlough extended sixty days longer, that Charlie will not be fit for duty. He is obliged to keep his hand and wrist bandaged and his arm in a sling. I tell you Charlie is a first rate looking soldier, if he is my brother. Father allows him to drive his horses and carriages around every day. He can take any one he wants to, visits the ladies quite often. Takes them riding and seems to be as fond of the girls as any of the Warners. Seems to enjoy himself first rate.

Em (Emaline Arms Peck) says "ask Pa if he had had any pineapples down there and to write and tell her when you are coming home." She has heard someone say that pineapples could be got there in abundance. The children are all well, Warner is just at the ridge yet working in the harvest field.

I don't think that Freeman (Arms) intends to go into the army at present. Yet he says he thinks that everyone who is drafted ought to go, if they possibly can. Since the next draft is large he thinks he stands a pretty good chance to get drafted. I think just at this time that he is thinking more of a certain young lady than of joining the Army. He seems to be greatly taken with Miss Anne Perkins who is visiting here. He told me that he thought her to be a very fine sensible girl and that he saw many things in her to remind him of Emily. He told me that he had visited her in Akron once this Summer. What the result will be I cannot say. Your frequent letters have done me so much good. I feel after reading them that I have almost been with you. Do you ever think of our Sunday evening suppers. How many we have enjoyed and how much comfort we have taken after getting the children to bed. It is just about that time of evening now. I would give most anything if you were here. I think that I could put in time better than in writing although now I enjoy this kind of intercourse very much indeed. I am glad you have sight of two females, should think you would feast your eyes. How you are sent all about



the country. It seems strange that you can't stay in one place longer. I hope you will keep well and take good care of yourself and remember that my thoughts are almost constantly with you. I begin to look forward to the time when we will, if God is willing, see each other face to face and enjoy a happy reunion. Yours truly and faithfully - Emaline.

I sent you \$20. in my last letter written Thursday, had sent \$20 before directed to City Point. George Nicholas from N. Y. stayed with us part of two days last week. Lodged in Freeman's room at the store, he took his meals at the Mansion House and said it was the poorest he had ever eaten so Freeman invited him to stay here.

Youngstown July 7th

My Dear Husband,

Having just received another letter from you dated Norfolk I feel just like writing to you in answer. Although my last letter here only this morning. Do you know, 'tis the greatest pleasure I have next to reading your letters, this putting my thoughts on paper which I know will so soon be perused by you. Although I most generally write in a hurry without much regard to style, but I know it will be all right with you. I think you deserve a great deal of praise to say the least for writing me so often. Something you have written is almost constantly on my mind, which helps to pass the time away pleasantly. I am very glad you have moved away from the front, should think it much pleasanter and healthier where you are; and very much safer. You, it seems can buy plenty of edibles if you have the where with. I sent you \$20 last week, will enclose another for fear that may not have reached you.

Mr. Kimberly was in today says he will send you a \$100 check on N. Y. soon. Says the furnace is doing well is making from 19 to 20 tons per day. Last month she made 120 tons which is an average of 21 ton per day. He has anticipated some difficulty in getting coal particularly about the 4th of July, but he has had some and thinks more that he can get enough in the future to

carry along the furnace. Coal brings \$4.50 at the mines and has advanced some. Mr. K. says he has sold 11 or 12000 dollars worth from the bank near Sharon. That he is today taking the last money up to those works that he needs there or that he will have to pay out. His wife stays most of the time at her sister's in Wethersfield. They are going right to work to build a brick barn in Sharon to live in this winter and perhaps next Summer. All being very tired of being without a house. There is to be a picnic here Saturday for the returned soldiers of the 7th and 23rd regiments. 'Tis to be held in Mrs. Emily Wick's grove. How I wish we could send something to you all. Do you think we could? I feel so sorry that you did not receive what we sent to Martinsburg. I suppose you heard that Gov. Tod did not accept the Secretary of Treasuryship.

Everything is advancing so in price that it is really astounding. Prints 31 cents per yard, sugar 25 cents per lb., butter 28 or 30 cents per lb. I should think such prices are beyond the reach of poor people. I hope that soon there will be a change for the better. Speaking of the price of iron, Mr. Kimberly says the mill men are trying to keep the price down, don't know what the result will be but I believe he has not sold any lately.

I know not why my letters are posted two days late. I have generally written in the evening and posted them the next morning supposing they would go out in the afternoon mail by way of Cleveland but find they go in the morning Pittsburgh mail consequently it is 2 days after my letters are dated that they are mailed. We are having extremely warm weather. Had a thunder storm last night and another today, and yet the air is not much cooled. I think it is remarkable how you have kept well in such a warm climate. It seems providential. Does it not seem strange to you sometimes that you are in the Army, so far away from home? It does to me. I had never given myself any anxiety on that score - Had never thought it possible that you would join the Army and now I have the sad reality, yet I am hoping for the best. Often I find myself looking forward to a joyous future. I hope and pray that

you may be spared to return to us, when I hope I will (by being deprived of your society so long) better appreciate having such a husband as I am blessed with. I think I am particularly favored in that respect and that there is not another who could fill your place.

That little imaginary article that you sent me I received with great pleasure but must acknowledge though that it was not equal to the reality; but under existing circumstances was only thankful for it.

Mrs. Murray has just come in and I will close in order to put this in the office this evening. It will go out early tomorrow morning. I will write soon - tell me all you do - Good bye for this time and believe me I am truly yours,

Emaline

Sunday July 10 or 11th, Picket Post 1 1/2 miles from Camp Near Norfolk

My very Dear Wife,

I received your two letters and received great pleasure in their perusal. You will see that I am on picket post this Sunday morning (now about 9 o'clock) just about the time you are eating your breakfast at home, seated at the head of the table with your six responsibilities gathered around you. Perhaps thinking about me or talking about me wondering where I am at at this moment and wishing I could be there to partake of your good coffee and doughnuts or some other extras which you know so well how to get up. The fact is that I am not so bad off in this regard thanks to our worthy scout George Baldwin who made a raid into town last evening and brought out one ham, five loaves of extra nice bread, two pounds of good butter, 1 doz. cucumbers, some ginger cakes, last but not least 1 pound of good tobacco. So together with some nice blackberries and milk which we had on hand I think we sat down to a table which our officers are a stranger to. My appetite was good, I can assure you that we all did full justice to the breakfast. We invited Lt. Sullivan to sit down with us. I forgot to mention that we also had some

good bourbon whiskey which was very difficult to obtain but our worthy scout succeeded in getting some. He never fails in anything he undertakes.

Our post is under a cedar on the road side. The woods across the road in our front, field of corn behind us. Our duty all day being nothing, but at night, not to allow any one to pass on the road after dark till broad daylight, tomorrow when we shall be relieved by new pickets. We bring out with us coffee, Injun bread. We build up the fire and cook, make coffee three times a day. Lay our oil cloth blanket down next to the ground and with our woolen blanket over us, look up in the heavens, see thousands of bright stars twinkling and think of those at home, wondering what they are doing just then, what particular part of the house they are sitting in and those they are likely accompanied with. We go to bed precisely at 9 o'clock. Home is toward the north star somewhere about 9 or 10 hundred miles. Can tell very nearly the direction you are located. Have slept in my pants with the exception of two nights, then in my drawers and mean to do so until I get home. Got my pants washed yesterday and wore my drawers all day instead. They feel much more comfortable this morning.

There is a field of cotton growing a short distance from here. Will send a plant enclosed so you can see how it looks. I always had great curiosity to see it myself. It is a different looking plant than I imagined. Corn here is very backward. Old residents say no trouble with frost - none till Christmas consequently it will have time to ripen. Saw a water-melon and musk melon patch yesterday, some were as large as a goose egg. They will soon be fit to eat. There are a few apples and some peaches but not a great many. There are also some few wild plums but they are about all gone.

The vehicles used by the people are a very singular kind of one. Nothing but a very common cart made in the rougher manner and all classes appear to use nothing else. They pass with a whole family in jolting along drawn by one horse. We see hundreds of them. The country people appear to be 50 years behind the

age in comparison with our country in some such things. In Norfolk they sport buggies and carriages such as ours but none in the country have I seen.

Our camp is located on one of the main roads leading from Norfolk back into the country. Consequently we see daily many horses and carts pass on their way to the city to market loaded with produce of all kinds. The negroes are all very polite and civil and in fact are the only friends we Northerners have. There are some exceptions of course but not many.

It is only 6 or 7 miles to the Atlantic. I should like to go down and see it, may not have another opportunity of doing so. If I am spared and get rich we will see some of the country some time. Will have to wait until the children get out of the way or you or I one of us will have to stay at home to look after them. We never took a trip yet did we? Except the Middletown trip. You see if you had only married rich you might have been on an excursion at least once a year. You see what you have lost by taking up with a broken reed after having refused so many splendid offers, and could have done so much better too. Is it not a pity one cannot foresee one's future life. How lucky we might make over ourselves but still something else is wanting besides riches. In fact, some of the most wealthy have the least enjoyment, particularly if they are not blessed with some other virtues besides the one of them - how to make the most money. "Fuss" Boarts has just handed me a plate of fine black beans which broke in and discouraged my thoughts which I was getting out above very rapidly - what more I should have said if he had not happened to come up as he did I do not know. But you have no doubt lost some such ideas. Now when I come to resume I have unfortunately to write with a full stomach, which all celebrated writers (I am one you know) agree is the very worst to undertake to get out anything brilliant. I fear I shall not be able to fill out this paper. I am constantly scratching my head for something interesting. Here comes a cart and horses with a young country buck and his girl taking a Sunday ride. He is rather green-looking but she, I must say, has a sharp eye and

prepossessing face with some cheap jewelry hanging at the ears same style of the James Richards stock which I purchased a long time ago. You remember them, don't you? I must say I am very favorably impressed with her. She rather smites me. Perhaps it is owing entirely to my being so situated that no opportunity is had for seeing women-kind at all. I rather think it might be dangerous for me to stay out another 100 days. She has gone now. Don't suppose she saw me at all when she passed, but still cannot help thinking about her charming face. Excuse me. I had about forgot I was writing this for someone else to read. You will find no fault if I make a looking glass of my heart and mind and let you read it all without reserve. You occasionally see some good looking man, don't you, who will in spite of yourself, bring some new ideas to you. You know it is now about 60 days or more since I left home and I cannot help thinking of what you said about those blankets I sent home. If I had known what you intended to do with them before I sent them should have liked it better. It is too late now, but should I conclude to get some other clothes, it may not be too late when I send them, (old ones) home. Let me know how you feel about it. Is it necessary or not. I don't think I am in condition yet. Would like the opportunity of testing that matter if you would give me the opportunity but still do not much expect you have any disposition of the kind. It would be so unlike you that it's hardly worth talking about. You have a large family now, would scarcely feel anxious to increase it, but if you do I think I could send you at least six more from here. Shall I do it? Are you capable of entertaining that much. It would require some exertion on your part as well as myself. But if both felt mutually agreed to it, it might be done with pleasure to us both and perhaps profit. I think it would do you good but of that you of course must judge. All I can do you are welcome to with great pleasure. I received a letter from Mr. K. yesterday with yours. Find our business progressing favorably. I am glad to hear it. How much money is going to mouth I don't know. I think best to pay all debts with stuff on hand and keep out of debt. If we make anything and it could be invested in property at anything like old rates it



might be well to do it. It is hard to say what money is going to be - depending upon the success of the war I think. I do hope and pray that we may succeed and clear up this thing soon. But if not, feel under any circumstances that we ought to give it up without putting down the rebellion. Cannot see that we could do it with any hopes for our country hereafter. Say to Mr. K. that they were (the Cleveland Iron Co.) to charge us \$3.00 per ton for the R. mill cinder. No other arrangement was made with them. Still no contract was made for any special time or quantity, they will not expect to charge us more than the going price that other furnaces will pay or at least they had not ought to. That can be ascertained by finding out what others pay. I believe I would sell metal at the going rates and pay off all debts. I see by New York papers that Scotch Pig Iron is worth there about \$72. per ton. \$1.00 will pay as much on debts now as it ever would, and the time may come when it might be hard to get it, consequently, it is better to keep things ahead of us than to be behind. Write me as often as you can and believe me very affectionately and truly yours -

Picket Post 5 miles from camp at Tanner's Creek  
Friday, 15 July '64

My dear Wife,

We (4 of our men) came out here yesterday to do picket duty for 4 days. We should remain here till Monday morning next. We are only two miles from Chesapeake Bay on this tide water creek. By the way it is quite a creek with different arms of water or bayoes as they are sometimes called putting out from the creek in different directions. The channel in the creek is 4 feet deep at high tide and is navigable for quite large vessels. Quite a large trade is done in oysters here. They are taken on the borders of the Chesapeake and transplanted here during the summer months and then taken up in the winter and sold to various markets. This is now out of the season for eating them and I have not tasted them. If I was posted here in the Fall months should grow fat in eating shell fish and other extras peculiar to this

climate. There are also grown here figs on the farm at our post on some 3 or 4 trees. I have not seen them yet but shall before I go back. They will ripen sometime in August. We get what potatoes, tomatoes, apples, onions, cucumbers we want. Watermelon and peaches too. I have abstained from eating very much of any of these vegetables believing it was better for me to do so although some of our boys eat everything that comes along and still keep well but they are generally young, tough and hearty and can stand anything. When the tide is out there is quite a disagreeable smell arising from the muddy bottom of the creek left exposed. I take occasionally a portion of the quinine you sent me and give it out to whoever wants it. I think it is a good preventative to fever. (19)

The death of Wm. Calvin which came so suddenly and so unexpected to the company has had a tendency to make many of us imagine that something might be in our systems which might breed of similar disease; but so far I am thankful today that I feel well. The weather at this point is very airy cool and very comfortable indeed. We get the sea breezes from the Chesapeake Bay and have an excellent opportunity to bathe in salt water. Some rather amusing times are had when a stranger to sea bathing takes soap and undertakes to wash himself. The more he tries to work up a lather the worse it is for him. If you go sea bathing remember this.

Located about 200 yards in front of our post is quite a respectable family consisting of several young ladies who are married and have children and the little fellows both boys and girls are playing around with their wax dolls and other play-things. It puts me very much in mind of my home far away. These are the first I have seen since I left home, being always in camp or out at the front where no children are seen. It seems right good to see them. They

(19) Quinine and vaccination were the only effective medical resources during civil war - no one really knew what they were taking quinine for - no one knew the difference of typhoid fever and malarial fever.

are tastefully dressed and more like white people. I remark that all whites in this country here talk just like negroes, the men I mean, I have not talked with any of the women. They say "dar" for there and every other real negro word or way of talking as you know without explanation.

At night we hear the whipper-will singing. It carries me back to the days when I used to go to Grandpa (Daniel Arms) visiting. We used to hear them in those days. We also hear the real mocking bird holding forth all night and copying all birds that you ever heard. Would like very much to get one to take home but they say they are quite valuable. They are a brownish bird not very beautiful in their plumage. It is the male bird who sings. There is one bird they do not mock which I can recollect of hearing singing about during the day whose notes are more cheering to me than any I have ever heard. I hope to be spared to hear it again for many years. In my idle hours I have a good time for reflection and my mind is constantly employed in thinking of those at home - too much so I am afraid for my comfort. I almost fear sometimes I should get homesick, they say that is a disease to be dreaded at least while so much of our unexpired time is in the future. I do not allow myself to count the days, it is yet too long. If I should time would drag more heavily than it does now.

I am glad to hear of mother and Aunt Mary's arrival there. Hope Aunt Mary will have a good visit and wait to see me before she returns home. Is Uncle Foster coming out? Should be very much pleased to see him. Always remember him as the nearest representation of my father and of course the nearest to me of any of my uncles. I hope the trip did mother good, I suppose Aunt Mariah went back without coming to Youngstown (you did say).

Our mail facilities are broken up here for the present owing to the rebels being between Baltimore and Washington. We had received no letters for ten days before I left camp. Don't know whether any mail has arrived since I left yesterday. Some of our boys are coming out with provisions for us today and will

bring any mail for us. I don't anticipate the rebels will gain Washington this time. Think this is a good opportunity for us to take a lot of them if things are managed well. I really hope we will be able to do it. I don't just like this post or camp. I would like to be shipped to Washington and see some of the excitement there. It would be a relief in one way from the dull duties of such a camp as ours. Hardly expect we shall be moved before our time is out for the reason that government has many soldiers she thinks are much more available than us for the duty about Washington now. We are daily improving in drill, so our officers tell us but I'm sure it will be quickly forgotten when we take up our old routines at home. We shall not love it enough to do much of it when once we get home again. I wrote you to send me \$50. I have received \$20. since but think you still had better send it along. I have only about \$5. of the last \$20. left. Have loaned some of it and could do more of it. I am not expecting to save very much this trick, you know.

If I do not receive any mail from you today will have to commence back on your old ones and read them over say one every two days in order to content myself. I don't think the mail will be stopped long. They will forward it by sea from N. Y. if no other way is open.

Our forces occupy Martinsburg again. Would like very much to be back there and see what the rebels done. Government has dodged us around just enough to keep us out of all fighting. Don't think they would have done it better if they had tried so far.

Mr. Baldwin went down to town the morning that Calvin died and made arrangements for the embalming of the body, and for coffin and transportation home. Could not telegraph Mrs. Calvin owing to the line being cut near Washington that day. Our Captain was to attend to it that morning. We left Wilson Calvin apparently one week before his death standing a better chance of living than most any of us. He was just in his prime. I was in to see him just after he went to the hospital. He was able to sit and walk about but was then lying down on the bed with his clothes on.

He appeared to feel very much depressed in his spirits and I think he then thought he would not get well. Tears were in his eyes. I told him to cheer up that it would not do to give up, that he would likely be about in a day or two. If there was anything he wanted to eat we could get it for him in town. He replied that he now had all in that way that he needed. The next day we went by the hospital when going out to drill and I was sure I saw him out under the shade tree (but I was mistaken since he did not leave his room after my visit). I consequently did not go in the next morning to see him. That afternoon was in to see him and saw at once that he was much altered and very sick. The next morning at 6 o'clock he was dead. It will be a sudden blow to his family, father, mother, and sisters, they could hardly have been aware of his sickness. The time was so short.

How is Papa's Hattie - Pa wants to see her and all the children very much. He felt like rolling on the grass with those nice children who were near us yesterday, it seemed so good to see them. You must all be good children and remember to do as your mother directs you. She knows better what is for your good than you do. Mary is getting to that age when she will be very liable to believe that she has nothing to learn but knows it all now. That is very natural but she wants to remember that her mother knows best and to obey her in everything. I hope Warner and Myron will not play away down street and be sure to be in and go to bed early as is their custom. Keep out of bad boy's company and obey their mother, and to try to make her as little trouble as possible - remembering always her cares and burdens which are enough without the burdens of naughty children.

Do write me often and long letters too. I believe I considerably outdo you in that line and believe me your affectionate husband -

Saturday

I concluded to say you may send me some more quinine. Send that which is good. The kind we get here is not very good. Two men of our regiment were

buried yesterday. One from the Berlin Co. and one from Pickaway Co. Nathaniel Leafron in our Co. will not live long. Wm. Britcher who was in Company with Hall is quite sick - good many complaining in the company. So far I keep well. I shall likely get some letters from you soon. Have received none for some time owing no doubt to the Rebel raid near Washington. Wm. Baldwin and I were out across the ferry this morning picking berries. We got some four quarts. It put me in mind of old days when I was young in Sodus. Think I was never out in Ohio berrying. When we got in found Hamilton and Wilson here from our camp with some rations of bread. I shall send this letter back to camp to mail by them. From present appearances this camp is not very healthy but I hope many of us will not be sick. The sickness is remittent fever attended with congestive chills (the same that Calvin died with). I don't think our physicians understand very much about it. We ought to have the best of doctors with so many men who are camping about in this varying climate.

We have a comfortable place here, quite a strong sea breeze is blowing all the time. We occupy a small shanty about the size of a smoke house here. We lay down on the floor nights and sleep well except for the annoyance of mosquitoes. Cook our rations over a small fire of sticks. Boil our coffee in a quart mug. Don't like the country very much. Would not want to live here on any account. People are very different from ours, are entirely behind the age in all improvements, ways of living, etc.

I have written you an extra long letter. I don't feel this morning like writing. Am at a loss what to say or how to say it.

Very affectionately yours -

Entrenched Camp - Norfolk Thursday 21st July

My Dear Wife,

I wrote you yesterday that I was some sick and glad to say that I feel better this morning. I took



some cold and I guess it has so far acted some like the spells I used to have at home for two or three days - being chilly and sweating, pretty freely at times. I am at Doctor Elder's quarters. Have taken some very heavy portions of quinine. I walk out around for exercise. Don't think I am going to be seriously ill. We have had very heavy rains for the last three days, it will no doubt cool the atmosphere. I am not going to write much only to let you know just how I was getting along. Will write you again tomorrow.

Affectionately yours -

Saturday July 24th

My Dear Dear Husband,

I have a little leisure and wish to employ it in writing to you. I have not done as well as you have in the length of my letters. I must say that I am particularly gratified in that respect, think you have done admirably your long and cheerful and interesting letters have been welcomed with the greatest pleasure imaginably. I hope and trust that I may welcome your own dear self before many weeks. I find myself thinking so much about it that I am becoming quite impatient. Feel very anxious to get you away from that climate as soon as possible as I fear sickness very much while you remain there. Some of the boys have written home that you expected to leave there the 5th of August. I do not rely much upon that however. I will enclose a few lines which I cut from the Cleveland Herald about using quinine, it seems very reasonable to me. Do not eat much green stuff. Dr. Woodbridge was in here today, inquired very particularly about you. Says he would advise you not to go in the Army again. I can tell you, I have made up my mind that if ever you come home I shall never let you go again. I don't believe you will want to, will you? Mary Woodbridge knows Mrs. Brooks and her husband are here. Came down to attend Dr. McCurdy's funeral. Mr. Brooks is rather fine looking - should think from all I hear that Mary had done very well in marrying him. They seem devoted to each other, but it is said that he is very jealous, has been very fond of ladies society, quite a flirt. Perhaps, that is why he is suspicious

of her - do not presume though that he has any reason for being jealous.

The funeral of Dr. McCurdy was largely attended. There was a telegraph dispatch sent to Robert. Mary Bentley feels quite anxious to have him come home immediately if possible. Don't know why, unless it is to attend to some business matters appertaining to her father's estate. Charlie Arms has bought a piano lately. \$450.00 for one. Not near as good as ours. He sent to Lawson to know what he could buy one like ours for? They could not be bought less than \$600. now - so he concluded to purchase one from this Warren man. He also bought a good sewing machine for Hannah. Hannah says she is afraid people will think they are getting rich, but there is no danger of thinking so herself. I don't think there is!

I sent you some quinine in my last letter, hope you will get it in time to prevent disease. Mr. Kimberly has sent you a draft also. You have probably received it by this time.

Sunday afternoon

I heard last evening that Mr. Ellis had written home to his wife, that you had just come in from Picket duty with a chill. I had Warner go down there with me (it was about 9 o'clock) to know for certain what he had written. It was just what I had heard. I then went from there to Mrs. Vials, as I had heard that she had received a letter from her husband. His letter was written Tuesday but did not say anything about you. You do not know how I have felt, have imagined you sick and suffering among strangers, in fact have feared almost everything and as I receive no letter myself, of course, felt more anxious. Oh! the agony of suspense. It is terrible. This morning sent Mary over to Mrs. George Baldwin's. She had not heard from her husband for several days but said Mrs. Heavill had received one saying that you and Mr. Baldwin had come in from picket Sunday quite unwell. I have sent to the office today (Sunday) thinking I might get a letter. I found the mail came in so late last night that it was not distributed. Bob (Warner) stayed down there one hour before Church time, to watch for the

P.O. to be open. I sent down a short time ago and got a letter written last Sunday - just one week ago. I can tell from the way you wrote you were not feeling well! Oh! I feel as though I could fly when thinking of you. You have no quinine and perhaps no money and I am away off here and can do nothing for you. Perhaps you will be brought home with disease - perhaps worse than that. The thought is heart rendering. I know it is not best to feel so until I know for certain how you are, but I cannot help it, hearing of so many that are sick and so very sick. Mrs. James Miller is worrying about her husband. Has heard that he is sick but is getting better. That is what Mrs. Calvin heard just a few days before she heard of her husband's death. Mrs. Miller says Mr. Miller has no money. Has sent home for funds but she has not hardly enough to get along on. Says that a number that owe them and promised Mr. Miller before he left that they would pay. Will not pay her a cent. I told her that I thought you would have some to lend him. She said he would sooner die than ask for any.

Mr. Kimberly was in here yesterday. Told me to tell you that the men at the banks (coal) were on a strike for \$.25 on a ton. He says that they have raised \$.15 since you left. The business is progressing favorably in every other respect. They have plenty of coal and C. But I cannot write anymore. I hope to hear soon again that you are well but Oh! I fear so much, until I know I shall continue to be very anxious. All are well here.

I remain yours truly and affectionately,

Emaline

Undated fragment of letter to his brother Freeman Arms. (20)

There is also the bringing up of those six children

(20) This letter was printed with the greatest difficulty and undoubtedly in anticipation of death. Needless to say the children were beautifully brought up and I've always felt that even their children greatly respected the memory of Myron Arms. My father told me he had a photographic memory. Tho I hardly think he could have had more than a 6th grade education.

by Emaline will be the great trial for her without assistance. It is not to be expected any one would marry her. If you could so feel as to occupy my full place in the family it would suit me. No better woman was ever made. I am simply putting down these matters for your and her consideration. If you should think favorably of it. It is a delicate subject to write about, but I believe better to write it out than keep it back. While I have thought of it a good deal since I have been out as to the best disposition which could be made.

I am not fit to write any more.

Your affectionate brother,

M. I. Arms

Don't go in the Army.

Republic Mine, Marquette Co., Michigan.  
Nov. 22, 1879

Mrs. Eliza Warner,  
Mineral Ridge, Ohio.

My dear Wife,

This day brings to mind an event that took place 50 years ago. A peculiar change in the life of both you and myself, and I remember well the day and the hour which was at 7 o'clock in the evening, A. D. Nov. 22, 1829 in Sodus when I led you to the matrimonial altar. Your dress white muslin with white satin slippers and a becoming head dress which I had purchased for you in Canada where I had been a month or two before on which trip I came near being drowned. All is as fresh to me today as yesterday. I remember well how beautiful you looked and appeared to me, as we stood there and made the solemn pledges or vows one to another before God and man for all of time, that might be given us. I remember the many pleasant incidents of that ever memorable day and evening to both of us. We were both of us poor, were homeless



orphans. If you remember this wedding cost me just \$40.00. Mr. and Mrs. Cooley were very kind in lending or giving the assistance needed by opening their house and doors where we were then boarding and prepared the wedding supper. By my paying the whole cost of an outlay of provisions which cost me about \$40.00. We had no home to be invited to and a reception given to us. Nor did we take a pleasure trip, but saved all we had left and all that we could earn to go to keeping house and make a home that we could call our own, together with some little capital for business, and how happy we lived in our humble home, at the different places as we changed from time to time in places most convenient for our business. Emaline was born I believe, in the little house that stood a little east of the house we were married in, and that my father died in. How many happy hours while Rachel Dean stayed with us who became the wife of William Christian. Both of them now gone home to their reward, and nearly all of our early associates have travelled the same road. Not only our early associates but generations many who have come on the stage of man and womanhood have travelled the same sure road, to either a home in heaven or a home in torment. And we are still spared in time and really I can but wonder what for. And now my wife, look over the history of our lives in part with me, during these 50 years and answer then what have we done, where have we been, how have we lived, and what has been the result of this long married life, to ourselves, to our family, and to our friends. Together with those we have mingled. I think if I had time I could give you correct answers to all of them. But suffice it to say I will drop nearly all of these questions and return to our selves and our family. I trace our footprints from Sodus Point to Ohio and back again to Sodus Ridge and from there to Ohio, then my trip to Indiany and Ft. Des Moines, then to Middletown, Pa. and back to Youngstown and lastly to Mineral Ridge, where stands the only home that we today have any claim to. I have not in this list named one-fourth of the changes that have taken place with us during the 50 years. And how many troubles and trials have appeared along this pathway during this wonderful kiss of time. How many times rich in this world's goods, and how many times

poor. We surely knew what prosperity is, and what adversity is also. We can see this long lifetime's earnings swept away as it were in a day that we had not a single roof left over our heads. And we to can bring to mind the little troubles, family and household troubles. You have been very much offended with me, and I have been very much offended with you. We have had much of clouded home life. God has given us many children. Some of them have done as they ought, and at other times they have acted very badly, as we thought, and has brought with it its troubles and fearful forebodings. I could relate much of our homelife and its many changes while at Sodus Point, Hamden, Ohio, back to Sodus Ridge, then to Youngstown, O.; and last of all at Mineral Ridge. How many pleasant remembrances and how many unpleasant remembrances. And after all there has never been any place like our own home. Mrs. Prevost came into our family at the Ridge, and remained with us or we with her making us a comfortable and happy home, I believe for about ten or twelve years, and became so endeared to the different members of our family that she seems to be one of us, and other members as well as myself realize in the recent past troubles in her purest, disinterested friendship. And when such a friend appears in such a time... she is therefore as one of our own family, and will always be looked upon as such by at least some of us. And now my dear wife, in looking over all the changes that has happened, all the troubles, all the trials the wonderful adversity, the many little household spats, the angry moments, the disappointments, the troubles with our children, the fearful forebodings all along in these periods of change during the time of this wonderful married life and in it all there was no place like home. No place so pleasant and where we have been so happy as home. And with all have we not been blessed, and have we not much to be thankful for, how our lives have been prolonged and how we have been blessed with health continued to us, strength of body and mind, clear up to these last days. And every child that has been given us is today living in the enjoyment, I trust, of health and the many grandchildren and the great-grandchildren also and all of them endowed with a given amount of talent. And those who have become matured occupying some respectable calling as a

livelyhood, and nearly all have made a profession of religion and belong to some Protestant Christian church. Only 4 deaths in the whole family for the fifty years. J. B. W. little boy, E. I. W. 2 little children and our respected and ever-beloved son-in-law Myron I. Arms who gave his life for his country when endangered. And all have no doubt in my mind, gone home to heaven. Where we shall ere long meet them if we continue to live as it is our great privilege to live throughout our pilgrimage course, be it longer or shorter. And now my wife, if we are spared, let us go to keeping house once more by ourselves. As soon as we can arrange so to do and have an earthly home, that we can call our own while we remain and perhaps as in the midst of so many blessings from our Heavenly Father during our long past history he may bless us still further and make our last days on earth our happiest days. I here send all the love that I can to you, to the children, the grandchildren and in this list I include Mrs. Prevost and Alpha, and remember me kindly to all the friends.

Can't you and Mrs. Prevost get together and write me a letter. I would like to hear from both of you. When I return home I shall bring to Mrs. Prevost her Republic Stock and I shall return as soon as I can for this climate does not agree with me, when I got to Marquette the snow was from 2 1/2 to 3 feet deep on the land, but the warm sun and rain took it all off. The weather has been very changeable rain and sleet. Ice forms on me and the nights have been very cold and now it is snowing and blowing. Anyhow it is very cold, and if this is the climate now it will go hard with me if I am obliged to stay until January or February. But I intend to get away if possible in December some time perhaps before Christmas. I would not live up here and be obliged to be in the storms as I now am for all the Republic Mine. Our mine is looking very well, but I have been disappointed in getting the diamond drill as I expected. I enclose you a letter from Edwin as he requested me giving I suppose only a part of the details of the dreadful time he had. I have answered his letter. I have had a letter from Bone also and giving about the same account, only more in detail. I shall answer Bone's letter tomorrow.

Affectionately your husband, Jonathan Warner.

Reminiscences - Phillip H. Schaff, Jr.

Summer, 1962, Northport, Michigan

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An indescribable sense of nostalgia, a loss -- or something. Very hard to describe.

Some of the things that go through your mind:

- Your grandmother is gone. She used to live in this house. Someone else does now.
- Your grandfather will never lead another family prayer and hymn sing after supper. Today, someone else lives in the house, and they do different things. They have a family picnic instead. That someone else is you.
- On the last Sunday night picnic, there were 15 children. This is smaller than normal because the weather was cloudy, and it had to be held inside the house.

They were full of life and pep. They ran on the same beach you did years ago; skipped stones into the water the same way your Dad taught you.

These children cared about you, and yet in a way they didn't. They had a certain kind of fun together that only kids can have together.

- Your Dad is dead. You remember him sitting in church each Sunday. He isn't there any more. You are.

And there are a lot of his friends who aren't there any more either -- George (Mr. to me) Dryden, Ellen Dryden, Charlie Davis, Fax Funsten, Uncle Fine, Edna Stuart and others. (I fell into a pot of strawberry jam at her house when I was a child.)

Now their children are about the age their parents were when I began to know them.

- A lot of people I used to consider young and indestructible are now in their 70's. They are no longer indestructible. Each has his or her ailments.

- The girl I used to be so fond of in my teens is now married to someone else. He is a good friend of mine, and we play golf together. She now has three children, the oldest now 14. This summer her son filled in as a fourth for tennis. He's as good as we are, and next season he probably will be better.

She has the same spirit and thoughtfulness she used to have, but her hair is gray. And she has taken under her wing four orphan children of her husband's sister. The oldest is as old as I was when I went to war.

- I am married now, and my wife and I have five children. We don't expect to have another. In a way this idea is a milestone, or a year-stone, or the closing of a door.

Our oldest daughter is 12. Already she has most of her growth. At 13, I was skipper of a boat that won a sailing championship.

- Instead of looking to my Dad for money, I look to myself. Others do, too.

- I never used to need glasses to read the hymns in church. Now I do.

- Tom Ford, an old friend of mine, lives in California now. He says he and his family plan to come back to the Point every four years. I used to see him every day. When I see him now, I know why we were good friends then.

- It's not as easy to remember people's names as it used to be.

- The corner office is a long way from the tree house, and yet maybe it isn't. What you learned from your Mother and Dad and from older friends such as Mr. Pelton, Mr. Heidrich and Mr. Dryden is still good.

- At the office, you used to call the boss "Mister." Now the new bright young men call you "Mister," even though you say to them, "Call me Phil."

- The younger men in the business seem awfully smart. Probably smarter than your generation. This is good.

- 20th Reunion memorial services last June - 63 had died.

- Don't break the chain. Try to leave the world a better place than you found it. And try to leave behind you -- in your children, your younger friends, your business associates and others whom you may influence an equal desire to become another link in the chain, to keep the faith. Know that they have the capacity to do better than you. Encourage them to do so, and be proud of them when you are old and they put you in the shade.



## OBITUARIES

### Philip Hofer, 86, art collector and former curator at Harvard

Phillip Hofer of Cambridge, an art collector, scholar and former curator of printing and graphic arts in the Houghton Library at Harvard University, died Thursday in his home. He was 86.

When Harvard presented him with an honorary degree in 1967, the citation read: "The unflinching concern for college and for art, and the discriminating taste of this generous scholar-collector have wonderously illuminated the Harvard chronicle of our time."

Mr. Hofer founded the department of printing and graphic arts in the Harvard College Library in 1938 - the first of its kind in the Americas. He stepped down at the age of 70 in 1968. For 12 of those years, he also served as secretary of Harvard's Fogg Art Museum.

He was an early "investor" in German, Iberian and Italian 18th century books when other collectors were preoccupied with illuminated manuscripts and books made before 1501. His 18th century Italian books are considered the finest outside Italy. He had traveled to almost every country in the world in search of books, including some 60 trips to England and almost as many to France.

Over his lifetime, he gave Harvard more than 10,000 books, prints, drawings and manuscripts.

According to John M. Rosenfield, professor of oriental art and acting director of the Fogg Museum, "Of his day, Hofer was one of the most creative and valued patrons of the Harvard University art museums. His interests were encyclopedic, extending from Europe through the Mideast to the Orient and his many gifts comprise one of the valuable collections for teaching and research that the museums possess."

Another colleague at Harvard, Konrad Oberhuber, a professor of fine arts, said, "Phillip Hofer was one of the most farsighted collectors that Harvard has ever had. He had an eye for buying that which no one else had, works that were not popular at the time...."

In 1938, he joined the Harvard College Library staff, where he

helped develop the library's collections in manuscripts, calligraphy, printing, design and illustration.

From 1934 to 1937, he served as the first appointed assistant director of the Morgan Library in New York.

In 1930, he became curator of the Spenser Collection of the New York Public Library and began to study book illustration and the processes of putting words and pictures on the printed page.

In addition to an appointment as honorary curator of the graphic arts at the Peabody Museum in Salem, Mr. Hofer was a trustee of the American School for Classical Studies in Athens, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Council of Foreign Relations, New York, the Society of Antiquaries, London, and, for several years was chairman of the committee for Bernard Berenson's Villa I Tatti outside Florence, Italy, which the famous art connoisseur had left to Harvard.

He was a trustee of the Museum of Fine Arts, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston Athenaeum, Smith College, Groton School, Dexter School, Bishop Rhineland Foundation, Corning Glass Museum and the Parsons School of Design, among others.

His principal publications included, "Edward Lear as a Landscape Draughtsman," "Baroque Book Illustration" and four books on the graphic work of Goya.

Mr. Hofer was born in Cincinnati on March 14, 1898, the son of Charles F. and Jane (Arms) Hofer. He was a graduate of the Pomfret School, Pomfret, Conn., and of Harvard, from which he received an A.B. degree cum laude in 1921 and, after several years in business, a master's degree in 1929.

In addition to his honorary degree from Harvard, Mr. Hofer held one from Bates College and was honored with the Signet Society Medal, the Syracuse University Medal and the Donald F. Hyde Award of Princeton University.

He was married to the late Frances L. (Hecksher) Hofer of New York, who also gave many Asian manuscripts and art ob-



PHILIP HOFER; R

jects and European drawings to the Fogg.

Mr. Hofer leaves a son, Dr. Myron A. Hofer 241 of New York; and three grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.