

Transcription:

[written at the top of the letter sideways]

I sent
Henry's &
Georges foto
graphs to
Josy in my
last to him
I am sorry
you could
not have
seen them
but hope
you will
see the
original
before a
great while
We have had
some very
cold weather
but it is
quite mild
just now
M

E Plainfield Jan 13th /64

My dear Son

I rec'd a letter from you
late last eve, and snatch a few moments
to answer it You say, you have been
waiting for me, now I am sorry to hear it
for I have been doing the same thing, as I
wrote last, but I should not have waited
so long if I had not felt compelled to
for I have been uncommonly busy this fall
& winter so far, but hope to get over my
hurry before long. Yes I feel to make due
allowance for you, and if you could see
how much I have to hinder me from writ-
ing I think you would'nt ask for any apol-
ogy from me when I fail to write, It is
among my choicest privileges to write to my
children & friends, and I do not and I do not wholy deny
myself this pleasure, as you will judge
when I tell you this is the fourth I have
written since last Sat eve after eight o clock

and I went to meeting all day last
Sabbath at Lebanon five miles distant
But I am wasting time in preliminaries
You say you want my advice & opinion as
to your recruiting, but say it will be
too late to profit you, Now if my advice
would decide the matter I should feel bound
to give it in this case, But I will tell you
some of my feelings of late, (or since this
recruiting commenced) I have felt such
a desire to see you all once more safe &
well that I could feel almost willing to have
you recruit to secure that pleasure, But
this is my ^{& my eternal} natural feelings, I know the
inducements are great, and it is not to be
wondered at, that you should have some
inclination on that account, but still I
would have you act from a higher mo-
tive, Yes act from a sense of duty
Yes act from a sense of utility.....
I am glad to hear you have got a good
Chaplain, or I hope he will prove to be so
one that will be faithful to his trust, a
workman that will not need to be ashamed

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and I went to meeting all day last
Sabbath at Lebanon five miles distant
But I am wasting time in preliminaries
You say you want my advice & opinion as
to your reenlisting, but say it will be
too late to profit you, Now if my advice
would decide the matter I should feel loath
to give it in this case, But I will tell you
some of my feelings of late; or since this
re enlisting commenced, I have felt such
a desire to see you all once more safe &
well that I could feel almost willing to have
you re enlist to secure that pleasure, But
this is my natural ^ & maternal feelings, I know the
inducements are great, and it is not to be
wondered at, that you should have some
inclination on that account, but still I
would have you act from a higher mo-
tive, Yes act from a sense of duty
I am glad to hear you have got a good
Chaplain, or I hope he will prove to be so
one that will be faithful to his trust, a
workman that will not need to be ashamed

rightly dividing the word of truth
and giving to each their portion in due
season, Yes and I hope you will have
a portion that will be lasting and eternity
You may tell your sheplein if you please
so that he shall have my prayers to that
effect. It makes me feel sure that you
should speak so lightly of such an im-
portant event, If you should go under
your family would be in easy circumstan-
ces as for us money was concerned, Now my
dear boy if you would strive to leave ~~that~~
that rich inheritance to your wife and ~~for~~
~~my~~ children, a life of faith & trust in
God it would would be better than those
sands of silver & gold, Yes yes, "for man
wants but little here below, nor wants
that little long" O yes aim higher
You dont mention of getting any thing
your brother menthion of getting any thing
out of the box I sent to Josy but hope
you did, I sent a box to Elmer four
weeks ago to day last week I heard from
him saying he had just rec'd it and a

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rightly dividing the word of truth
and giving to each their portion in due
season, Yes and I hope you will have
a portion that will be lasting as eternity
You may tell your Chaplain if you please
that he shall have my prayers to that
effect_ It makes me feel sad that you
should speak so lightly of such an im-
portant event, If you should go under
your family would be in easy circumstan-
-ces as for as money was concerned, Now my
dear b^o if you would strive to leave ~~that~~
that rich inheritance to your wife and ~~fam~~
~~-ily~~ children, a life of faith & trust in
God it would be better than thou-
sands of silver & gold, Yes, yes, "for man
wants but little here below, nor wants
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You do'nt mention of getting any thing
out of the box I sent to Josy but hope
you did, I sent a box to Elmer four
weeks ago to day last week I heard from
him saying he had just rec'd it and a

wasnt had been in the box and
devoured about all there was in it ex-
cepting his butter & cheese but he thought
the most of that, so it wasnt so bad as
it might have been after all, but you can
judge of his disappointment, I sent him a
roast spare-rib 14 fried turnovers a lot of
sugar gingerbread & seed cakes and some apples
I had a letter from Josy last week telling
me of his change, I am sorry to hear he has
left you, but I suppose you will want to
hear a little about home, well we have met
with quite a loss, father bought a pair of
two year old steers last ^{part of 4th or 5th of May} about two weeks
ago one of them died, I think he hurt him-
self fighting? father wouldnt make the other
very well so he bought another pair and
paid 53 for them, he is feeling rather
poor over it, but I must stop writing
by requesting you to write as soon as
possible and let us know whether you
proceed or not, we had the news
last night that your uncle Thomas had
buried his son Thomas he died at home but
has been in the army, I havnt learned the par-
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rat had been in the box and devoured about all there was in it excepting his butter & cheese but he thought the most of that, so it was'nt so bad as it might have been after all, but you can judge of his disappointment, I sent him a roast spare-rib 14 fried turnovers a lot of sugar gingerbread & seed cakes and some apples I had a letter from Josy last week telling me of his change, I am sorry to hear he has left you, But I suppose you will want to hear a little about home, well we have met with quite a loss, father bought a pair of two year old steers last fall paid \$45 for them [paid*] about two weeks ago one of them died, (I think he hurt himself fighting) father could'nt mate the other very well so he bought another pair and paid 5[9] for them, he is feeling rather poor over it, But I must stop writing by requesting you to write as soon as possible and let us know whether you have enlisted or not, We had the news last night that your uncle Thomas had buried his son Thomas he died at home but has been in the army, I hav'nt learned the particulars

From your own Mother