

Peterboro March 21st

Dear Brother

this Evening I sit down to write you a few lines my health is not first rate I have suffered with my back and Kidneys ever since my great sickness in the Army and always expect to my family are all in tollerable health the times have been awfull hard for the past few years and no increase of wages in my work yet it is prety hard work to get along aside from domestic troubles but you [know] we have not long to suffer in this world we are getting well along in the down hill of life and I dont regret as I once did it has been a hard road for me the last fifteen years Mother has gone from a long usefull life peace be to her ashes may you and me and all of us be as well prepared for that last change as we have reason to believe she was Noah called on me a few days since he is same one arm off Prescott Hardy the youngest of the family was here with his minstral show last week 46 a Batchelor weighs 265 a fine man owns a good farm at Keene John Cummings is prety well played out cannot do any thing and will not stand it long the Winter has been verry open and is warm and pleasant now I am making application for a Pension and I am honestly entitled to it but doubtfull if succeed one of my feet has been partly paralyzed since I was in the Hospital and always will be I wrote to you once about getting Doct Harrison to say a word for me Profeshionly about my sickness when in Sinclairville and I wrote him but neither of you ever answered the fact is a little testimony sometimes does a fellow great good if the Doctor would say what he knows of my former health and the condition I was in when he last saw me and if in his opinion such disability as I was laboring under would be likely to be permanent as it has I should feel verry gratefull if he would make affidavit it is merely his opinion as a MD if so David will you do it for Jont and send it to without a days delay as my Petition must go in immediatly and if you cannot write me a letter and then I shall be satisfied but by all means write as soon as you get this I will write Calista next week give my love to Clarissa Jony Mary and all my folks and friends it is getting to be a dreaded task for me to write my old fist is stiff and you know how it is yourself so I will bid you good Night

your Aftc Brother

J M Ames

be shure and write without delay

JMA

Elmyra Apr 16th/65

Dear Father and Mother and Sisters

I am all right and hope that you are the same I like Soldiering first rate so far Ort Heill is here and Si Torry there is a good many Soldiers here I dont know how long I shall stay here and I dont care Abe is dead all the Officers ware crape on thier left arm I dont have any duty to do as long as I stay here and I just as lives stay I will tell you how we live there is roll call three times a day and after that we are marched off to get our grub which concists of apiece of bread and beef for beakfast and bean soup for dinner and pork and bread for supper I have to write standing up so I will not write any more

good by

J M Ames

Direct

Barracks First 11th Ward  
Elmira N.Y.