

Nashville Tenn.
Thursday Jan 5th 1865.

Norman F Moore
Buffalo N.Y.

Friend Norman,

Your letter of the 31st was received Yesterday for which I am indeed very thankfull, for again has the darkness been lighted up in my dark and lonesome dungeon here by your letters it found me just at the right hour, for I had been setting by the fire all day alone in my room with nothing to do read or write and I can tell you I was lonesome enough, and as I set here this Evening with all quiet around me, so quiet that I can almost hear the Stars Twinkle, I thought I would try and write a few lines, and Norman you must excuse me if my letter failes to interest you as I know of nothing of importance to write.

Well Norman we still continue to stay here in this low livid City of Nashville, and it is a low livid City too, Muddy as the Dismal Swamp Since Hood & his Army ware here, evry thing has fallen back into its same old Track of Money Makeing, Robing & Evry day life There is a great Business carried on here now for it not only has its old Business but that of the Army for this Department, & you know what that is. I do not suppose there is a city in the Union whare so much crime of all kinds is carried on. it is estimated that out of the Five Thousand Women here there is not over 30 that is Virtuous, and not a night passes but from 6 to 10 men and Women are Killed. so you see that it is not a very agreable place to chose a residence for life. But I wont find eny fault as we have good Quarters and eny thing necessary for comfort.

Well another Year has rolled around and another past into Eternity One by One they move along with shure and steady tread from the presant to the past, and in their track leave ruined Nations Men and Flowers. Oh that the Curtain could be droped and shut out from our view forever the sceans of War Crime and Suffering that has been acted on the stage of the Year 1864.

But what has passed can not be recalled But let us hope that this Year will see this Wicked War brought to an honorable close, and Friends in the Army joined with Friends at Home, and the Rose of Peace bud and Blossom along evry River on evry hillside and in evry Valley of our Beloved Country.

Yes Norman it will indeed be as you say a happy time when we can go marching home, and God grant that that time may not be far distant.

I am well and I trust this will find you all the same, & that I shall hear from you often. give my respects to all of your Folks, and I will close my poor letter this time by wishing you all a Happy New Year.

care of
Lieut B. P. Hitchcock
Box No 1209

I am Norman
Your true Friend
Newton A. Chaffe
Nashville Tenn