



"WITH THE COLORS"



Camp Devens, Mass.,
Monday night.

Dear Brother:—

Behold! you now,
henceforth call or address your
"kid" Brother as Corporal Bennett.
I received my warrant this
morning and also my two
stripes for my arms. Gee! but
I'm pleased. My next step
I'm to work for now which
will be Sergeant. It may
be a long time coming but I'm
on it's trail now. I'm tickled
to death about it. I was going
to write you yesterday but
I had no quill pen so I
had to quit now or
wait to write you to-
night. I was mighty glad to get
your nice long letter last

week. Gee! this quarantine
is awful, but I won't kick
a bit if I only can get home
Christmas Day at least. Orders
came from Headquarters yester-
day and was posted, that we
are to have from Saturday
noon December 22nd until
reveille Wednesday morning
practically four days. Oh!
I am just longing to be
home with you and
mother dear. I sent my
last payment the other day
on the Boston Bank for
that Christmas check for
mother, so there is fifty
dollars and seventy-five cents
waiting for me. Sometimes
it has come rather hard on
me to keep it up, but oh!
I'm so glad I have, and I'm
quite positive mother does not
know a solitary thing a-
bout it. I suppose she will
feel badly that I saved it all



"WITH THE COLORS"



21

for her, but I feel also it will
seem nice to her to have
it.

We have just got paid
to-day, I only got ten dol-
lars out of my thirty this
time as I allotted twenty
to mother and the government
sends that direct to mother
plus ten more. I hope they
hurry up and send it to her,
as I guess she needs it.

Have you written Mrs. Osgood
yet for the money? I imagine
if you explain to her how
everything is and that is your
last year, that she will lend
you all you need.

I really think you had
better refrain from work-
ing in the office or shop this

vacation. It is a matter of
but a few days and you
can cut wood and do a
lot for mother around the
house to help her. I hope
you have some "cuts" you
can use so that you can
stay a day or two longer
at home. This is your
last year in school Wm, and
you might as well enjoy
your vacation, if possible.

Was glad you liked the
snap-shots I sent you. I've
had my "physiognomy" taken
several times in uniform; and
they all are junk, although
Aunt Stella took one of me
which came out pretty good.
I believe she is saving one
for you.

You must have had a dandy
party at the house -
giving me. Just enough for
a good time I imagine.
Don't forget the love of all



"WITH THE COLORS"



31

that is sensible talk about
cold and snow in Maine,
for we have plenty of both
right here at Ayer. This
morning it was seven below
zero, so cold we could not
stay outside to shovel
snow. We had a grand snow-
storm again here Saturday
night, and we shovelled all
day yesterday and tried
to this morning.

Doris Barnard took ether
yesterday morning and had
four teeth pulled out. She
could not stand it without ether
and I got a line from her
to-day saying it was all
over and she felt much
better.

We lost our Lieutenant of

artillery to-day. He was
ordered to go to Florida
and started this morning. We
feel so mighty sorry to
lose him, as he was so
mighty pleasant and smart.
You ought to hear him reel
off the figures and all
sorts of scales and tables
by heart, used in field
engineering. He was teach-
ing us now - comes one
hour every day to do
military map drawing and
he's a wonder. We gave
him three rousing cheers
when he left us this morn-
ing, and I'll bet we were
heard all over the camp.
Our captain hated to have him
go I guess, too.

You ought to see the
fellows playing poker and
rolling dice to-night. You
know, when pay-day comes
they are not satisfied until



"WITH THE COLORS"



41

they can see if they can
double it. Most always they
nearly lose it. In a few
days their funds will be
so reduced that they will
have to come down to
pinny - poker. Pretty poor
business I think. Believe
me they don't get any
of my precious money.

Perhaps you have heard
that the fifteenth of the
month Raymond Piper starts
in for a commission in the
Aviation Corps. It includes
a six weeks course at
Massachusetts Tech. Doris
writes that he appears in
his uniform already, as he
has to buy his own clothes,
but gets twenty-five dollars

for week. By-the-way, be-
ginning the first of this
month I begin to get
six dollars more a month for
being a corporal. Gee! I'm
glad for the raise, believe
me.

Well, Win, I guess I will
dose now. Mother has had
a bad cold but is a lot
better now. I am fine and
hope you are. God bless
you and may we be together
soon. Lots of love to you
from
your brother,
(Corporal) Mort.

P.S. Enclosed you will find a
little comical poem I cut out of
a magazine.



"WITH THE COLORS"



For:

Mr. Winburn Albert Darnett
University of Maine,
Orono, Maine.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon House

From
Corp. M. C. Bennett,
Caisson Co. #1,
Ammunition Train,
30th Regiment
Camp Devens,
Mass.