



"WITH THE COLORS"



Camp Devens, Mass.,
Thursday Night.

My dear Brother: —

Of course you have heard since coming home the terrible, awful disappointment I am and will go under for the next few days. My ambition is very low, and not only must we remain in camp, but another case of measles developed this morning, so we must remain in barracks another two weeks, making five weeks in a stretch! We will be ready for the bug-house then.

I guess I could stand the disappointment fairly well, but oh! I know mother will feel so very bad, but I thank almighty God you will be with

her for a few days. I had
planned so for those four days
that now I'm heart-sick over
everything, all interest seems
entirely gone.

What I am writing this letter
especially for is this. I believe
that check from
the Boston Bank, for mother's
Christmas Present, is being
held by Albert Warso. I told
him that when it came, for
him to hold it out until either
I or you got it from him.
He was to let me know when
it came but I have not heard
from him as yet. If you
get it you can either give
it to mother immediately or
on Christmas morning. I had
rather you give it to her
Christmas morning, and explain
to her all about it. I will
write mother Sunday, so she
can get a letter from me
Christmas Day, and I'll explain



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the check to her and ^{what} it's meant
for. Now, Win, the Barnard's,
at least Doris, is planning to
guess to come up Tuesday, as I
can't get home, and what I
want to say is that if they
come by auto and ask you and
mother to come up with them
I hope you will. But I'm a-
fraid mother won't be able to
come and don't leave her home
alone, will you? I long to see
you Win, but mother shouldn't
be left alone. Of course Doris
may not come by ~~to~~ auto, and may
by train. I am going to write
her to - night and tell her
she had better not come, as it
would break up her day and
it's a long trip.

Our Captain feels badly for

us, and he announced to-night
at supper that he was going to
have a Christmas tree for us,
and an entertainment is being gotten
up for Xmas eve. But it
won't be like home.

Mother better be careful and
not get cold. You watch out
for her while you're home
won't you. Stay with
mother as long as possible,
and I do hope Jane will
come quickly for both you
and mother.

Remember Win, don't send
me anything for Xmas. Keep your
money for yourself. Have you
heard from Mrs. Osgood.

I'll close now with lots
of love to you both. Merry
Xmas to you.

Your loving brother,
Wm.

P.S. Tell Albert & Maria I told you
to get the check. Perhaps you'll have to
send it to me to make it over to mother, so
she can cash it. You can send it after Xmas.



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For.

Mr. Winburn Albert Derr
P.O. Box [#] 216.
Hopedale,
Massachusetts.

From
Sergt. W. C. Bennett,
Caisson Co. #1,
Ammunition Train,
301st Regiment,
Camp Devens,
Mass.