

Back to duty here until he gets sound again,
and I would advise him to apply for a discharge
if he does not get well soon. Give him my
best respects and also to Lie Jacques. We have
just got news that there is another call for
30,000 more men and that all men who are
fit for duty, to be returned immediately to their
respective commands. Well I am glad there is
more men called for, as I think we need them
and the sooner we get them, the better. If we
are going to whip them the sooner the better
and if we are doomed to be whipped I don't
know but I would as ~~soon~~ be whipped now as
two years from now. I hear you are having good
times sleigh-riding at least some the girls say
so. I would like very well to come and take
a ride with you. But I don't think I can
afford to come, even if I could get a furlough
as it would cost so much. Your letter and paper
came through safe and I was glad to get a
New paper. Please give my best respects to all
the friends and write at your earliest convenience
Yours most Respectfully

John W. Dick
Army of the Potomac

Edgar M. Dick
Brother-in-law
Wiz

Amulance Corps, 2^d Div, 2^d A. Corps
In Camp near Yellow House Va, Dec. 22nd 64

"Friend Edgar"

Received your kind & interesting
letter last evening, and having perused it's well filled
pages, I now seat myself for the express purpose of
addressing you a few hasty lines in reply. I was
as usual much pleased to learn you and the rest
of the family was still enjoying good health. I
am well as usual only, I have a slight cold, but
that amounts to nothing. Here in Va, a fellow
has got to have his head shot off and a good
part of his neck, to have anything ail him. I
am in the Amb Corps, yet I'm having good times
but very busy just now, a fixing up camps so
as to be ready for the coming winter, and also we
have made stables so as to protect the horses from
the inclemency of Va. sleet & rains. We are in
the same camp and hope to stay here all winter
as this is the 3^d time we have put up Winter

Quarters, and if we are compelled to leave many more I think we will know our Biz. so far as putting up winter quarters is concerned. Well so far as news is concerned I'll be blunder if I know any. The two past weeks has been the most quiet ones I have seen since I came to the Army of the Potomac. We have no picket firing here, and no shelling. Since I wrote last there has been three men been run out of our Corps, they deserted and joined the Rebels, and our forces captured them, the belonged to some N.Y. Regt. And I expect another one will pull Kemp at least he ought to in my opinion. He attempted to desert while on picket, but became bewildered and came up to a post in charge of Sergt Phillips of my Co. And he thought he was among the Johnnies, and at once commenced to tell all about our forces, the number and positions &c. And the Sergt questioned him and got all he could out of him, and then placed a guard over him, and escorted him to Div. Hd Qrs. He belonged to the 184th P.V., and I am sorry to say to our Brigade. The 5th Wis. Vol in the 6th Corps lays about one mile from, and I see the boys often

They are all in good health except Luther Schomer Oscar is well and seems to like soldiering as well as ever. I saw James Fowler the other day. He paid all the boys in the 38th was well except Edwin Bulman he is sick with the jaundice and in the Hospital. The 9th Corps, relieving us and now holds the line in front of Petersburg. My Regt. lays about one mile from here, and is fast filling up the thinned ranks. The men who have been away wounded, and some who were taken prisoners have been exchanged, and many I am sorry to say who have been on the "cool" and a very few of recruits, and I am looking every day for some of the boys from our way to come. The weather has been beautiful all the fall, and it seemed more like Autumn in Wis., than it did like winter. But yesterday we had a cold rain and it seems quite like winter, to day and I find an Overcoat and Gloves quite a useful article. I am quite sorry to hear there is so much sickness in your vicinity and I hope ere this reaches you, they will be better. I hope O. A. Hart will not be compelled to come