

Head Quarters 47 Pa. Vet. Vols.

Near Charleston, Va.

2-20-1865

Dear Friends,

Your letters written on the 12th only reached me yesterday having been seven days on the road. I looked for them some time and Jimmy has been looking for one ever since he has joined the Regiment. You must take a little time and write to him.

We have had deep snow and very cold weather but an improvement is visible today. The sun is shining brightly and very warm. In consequence, the snow is melting rapidly. I am glad to see it go as we have had enough of it and cold weather.

How I would like to see darling little Lizzie. I suppose she would rather stay with you than go back to Burlington. Am not surprised either. She must not forget her Uncle Shindel for he will never forget her.

It appears Abbie is determined to get married. You are right, father, their courtship is of the sickliest character. If mother can keep them straight she will have her hands full. I have directed some articles to be sent her from Baltimore. They will come by Express. I imagine her schooling was not a very profitable investment. God keep her, though, I hope her fondest anticipations may be realized but I am afraid she will find some clouds she did not expect.

Wharton and Randals arrived tonight and with them came Mrs. Piers. Sam got a place for her to stay in a house near here. I saw her a few moments this afternoon. I suppose I will find out all the news.

You are getting frightened about the Guerillas are you? There is no occasion for any alarm. I understand the fellows pretty well and think I can manage them. I have

them pretty well cleared out now but I suppose when the weather opens they will again show themselves. The orders are too strict for them now. They are compelled to keep away from their friends for we punish them as well as the Guerillas.

The day has been warm and the snow is fast disappearing. We had over a foot of it and very cold weather. We are pretty comfortable in our log houses and defy the weather. I have a couple of cases of Smallpox in Camp - brought from Allentown. John Shindel is assigned to the Regiment as Asst. Surgeon. I expect him here every day.

Ed Bucher came down here last week and has been here ever since. He talks of enlisting. If he does, I will put him in the Band. I suppose there are plenty of fellows to enlist now. I am sorry Gov. Curtin interfered in the draft as I would like to see a lot of men around there brought out. They will get their chance though, perhaps.

I am in the best of health. [Unreadable] to Abbie last week to Selinsgrove. Love to Grandmother and all friends. Write soon.

Yours Ever,

J. P. Shindel Gobin