

Rufus Parrish Donates Fund To Send Body Home

(Continued from Page One)

dress as he can find in Wilkes-Barre and pay for it out of my money. Now, don't slight him for he has waited a good while.

I have got to go on picket tomorrow if well. The company is well except one, a recruit, Giles Harris. I have first rate health since I came down here except my wound has broken but is getting better now.

Now, dear parents, I have left you for the Army and the wars. To defend our flag from Traitors And preserve our country's laws.

For this flag our fathers struggled Whittened many a field with slain To build up this mighty nation And their freedom to maintain.

Traitors they have tried rebellion Ruined all their peaceful homes We will pay them for their treason To the flag they once had borne.

Tell Helen to send me the song "Brave Boys Are They" and "Kitty Well".

This poetry (and some others) I composed while in camp.

I will have to close for the present hoping to hear from you soon.

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Shavertown, Pa.

Send me a county paper once in a while.

from
R. F. Parrish
to
E. W. Parrish

Camp Near Steavensburg, Va.
March the 8th, 1864

Dear Parents,
This stormy morning I set myself to answer your kind and welcome letter which came at hand last night. I was glad to hear that you were well, but sorry to hear that Eveline was dead. I wrote a letter to Walter the other day, but little did I think that it would find them in such a sad state. It is hard to lose a friend, but it cannot be helped for the old must die and the young will die.

Well, it is rather a lonesome day but it's like all rainy days. In your letter dated February the 21st you said my debtors were bothering Father so I will send him a bill of them. As for Tom May, I owe him one dollar and I owe Ed Cook two dollars that I borrowed to pay for that flag and I owe Dale Clark one dollar. That is all I believe, except good will to Union men but destruction and a short life to copper heads or Tories.

I am glad there is so many a coming down to help us put an end to rebellion and when that is done we will put an end to mock Democracy or put an end to where it lives. I am a mind to but Father stand by those flags that I left and don't be scared by the fools.

I saw Chet Hall the other day on picket. He is in the 29th Main Company. He came out as a substitute for a man under a disguised name. I got a letter from Henry Frear and will answer it as soon as I get time. I do not have a great deal of time to spare. The company is so small that we have to do a sight of duty.

I would like to have you send me some money if you will for I lent 84 dollars and spent a good deal. Keep a little so to send me some

once in a while as Mother said you bought a cow with some the other day. That is better than to spend it as some do and then if they live to get out of the Army they have nothing to start with.

When I get my pay I will send the most of it home and then it will be safe and when I want a little I can send and get it. I am glad you are laying it out so it will help you and if I do not get home you will have it to remember me. Well, that is enough of that for I will get home and that is settled. I would like to have Uncle Rufe answer that letter. Send me Levi McClaud's address, for I would like to see him and then I would know where to find him. Tell Helen that I would like to have her and Martha get these photographs taken and send them to me for I would like to have them. If I knew where to direct, I would write to Martha and Uncle Ike's address. I wish that you would take the best one of my pictures to Wilkes-Barre and get photographs taken from it and send them to me. I guess you think I am asking a good deal of you for a boy. When you get tired let me know and I will stop and send somewhere else, but it would be hard to find such parents in every person. Well, I will close for this time. I have not much time to write so you will have to do with a short letter and excuse all mistakes and bad spelling and writing for it is from a poor scholar. No more at present.

From your son
Rufus F. Parrish
To kind Parents E. W. Parrish
Write soon and all the news.
Arah F. Mauck's brother is in this regiment. He is a smart fellow. He said that John Dugal had been sick a good while.
Direct to Co. F, 53 Regt., 2nd Corps., Washington, D. C.

Dear Brother:
This afternoon I take my pen in hand to drop you a few lines that you can read yourself. I do not have much to do here. Today the boys made a kite here in the hospital. They had a string tied to it 1200 feet long and it went up the whole length of the string. Then they would take a piece of paper and cut a hole in it and then they would put it on the string and the wind would take it up to the kite. That they would call a messenger.

There is a funeral here today. Samuel Gerhart died night before last about 3 o'clock with the fever. I was sitting up with him when he died. They have just gone to bury him. Well, I will bring this to a close, hoping to hear from you soon. I will write a little in this to Margy.
To Victor C. Parrish
From Rufus F. Parrish.

Well, Marg, I will write a few lines in Vick's letter to you and I cannot think of much to write now so I will finish it tomorrow if all is well. I have been out on a pass today. I saw some making hay and some hoeing corn which made me think of home and friends that are far away, but I hope God will watch over me and them till I see them again and if not that we may meet in Heaven. We are expecting 700 more wounded men tonight. I have been detailed for a nurse here in the hospital, but do not know how long I shall stay here. Send me a County paper if you please. I will bring this to a close.

To M. E. Parrish
From your brother
R. F. Parrish
Address to U. S. General Hospital, 5th Ward, 3rd Room, York Co., Pa., and it will come safe.
June 5th, 1864
Little York, Pa.

Dear Father,
This morning I take my pen in hand to let you know how I am getting along. I am very near well, so that I shall go to my Regiment in the first Squad that goes from the Hospital, for I am getting tired of laying around the hospital. I will tell you as nearly as I can what kind of a place this is. As for the city it is a Copper Head hole. Our hospital is southwest of the village, but not entirely out of it. It is a very nice place. It is about eighty rods square and there is seven wards in it. Each ward has a garden, but not very large. There is a barracks for to hold meetings in and the bugle has just blown so I must go. I will finish it when I come back. . . . Well, I have just got back from meeting and the boys are all using the ink so I'll finish it with my pencil. The chaplain preached a very good sermon. I do not know but what I have heard as good ones but I never felt as much of an interest in them as I do at the present. He read a chapter in Genesis, 28th Chapter. His text, Genesis 28 Chapter and from the 20th to 22nd. We have Bible class here at 2 o'clock and preaching at 9 a. m. and 6 p. m. on Sunday, Wednesdays and Fridays.

I will not mail this till tomorrow. I have just got a letter from mother containing 3 dollars from you. I am much obliged to you for it, father. Do not work too hard for I

soon shall get my pay and then I will send it to you.

From your son
Rufus F. Parrish
to
E. W. Parrish

York U. S. Hospital,
June 27, 1864

Dear Father,
This morning I take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you. I am very busy now days. I got a letter from Mother this morning dated the 24th and I was very glad to hear from you. It contained one dollar. I was very glad to get it, but I owe one dollar and a half and I shall pay it so I will have none for the fourth. I shall be mustered out this week a Thursday and shall get my pay the 18th of July. I shall get four months' pay so if you have not got money to send me five or six dollars, borrow it in my name and I will pay it as soon as I get my pay. I suppose that you think I want a good deal of money, but Father I do not spend my money for Wiskey as a good many do nor to these whore houses for I feel myself above such places and such folk. When I go out in town I spend my time so I am not ashamed to associate with the first class of people which I have gotten some acquainted with.

Tell Biddy that I am glad to get such a card and I pray that I may head to it. I will bring this to a close. Don't fail to get a letter to me by the fourth.

From E. W. Parrish
to R. F. Parrish
Write soon.

U. S. A. General Hospital
July 7, 1864

Dear Sister,
This morning I take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you to let you know that I am well and hope if this reaches you it may find you and the rest enjoying the same. I have not had a letter from you in some time and I thought I would stir up your mind a little. It is reported that the Rebs are in Maryland and on their way here. Last night they were around to find how many would take a musket and fight the Rebs if they come and I told them to put down my name.

I was out in town last night and there were hundreds of horses and wagons going through town. They came from the state line and said the Rebs was at Hagerstown and were on their way here, but I say let them come for it will help to raise men to put down the war and it is a poor man that will not defend his own state.

Well, I will tell you what kind of a time I had the fourth. I got a pass from 2 to 10 p. m. and went to a picnic, but did not have a very good time for the citizens tried to drive us from the grounds, but it was right the other way, we drove them instead of them driving us, and hurt one very badly. I must go to breakfast. I will not finish this till tomorrow.

I thought I would write a little more in this today. They have just brought two Rebel spies in here. They got them down in town. It is reported that the Rebs is at Huts town about 15 miles from here. It is likely that they will be here tomorrow so I will finish this tonight and mail it so you can think what kind of a time we will have here and it is likely before you get this. But do not worry but put your trust in God and I will do the same.

I do not know as they will hang those spies here but they ought to, but I think that they will send them to Baltimore or Harrisburg.
I will bring this to a close and will write soon again.
Pray for me, dear sister.
from Rufus F. Parrish
to E. H. Parrish.

York Hospital, Pa.
July, Saturday, the 23, 1864

Dear Sister,
This afternoon I will try and write a few lines to you to let you know how I am getting along. My last wound is well, but my old wound bothers me very much. The reason is (I think) that I caught cold. I volunteered to go out as a scout and had to lay on the ground without a blanket, but we had a very nice time and did not see many Rebs. We took five prisoners, but had no fighting to do. We lost two men that were out on picket (the outpost). I think they were taken prisoners. The raid is all over I guess. I have not had a letter from home in two weeks and do not know the reason.

Helen, send me the following named songs by the return mail if you can, "That's What's the Matter," "O, Jimmy, Farewell," and "Bill Brennan" and if you have got any new ones please send them. Tell mother to send me two pairs of socks. I will bring this to a close as I have got to fix my tent for inspection. Goodby. I remain, as ever, Your obedient brother
R. F. Parrish
to E. H. Parrish
I begin to want those pictures that I asked for some time ago.
(Continued on Page Seven)

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