

Sunday Nov 6<sup>th</sup> 1864

Friend Christman,

Your very welcome letter came to hand in due time and we are very glad to hear from you that you are well &c, &c. ( ? ) other (Leons) I don't know if I shall succeed in making myself interesting but I will (resolve) to (sum) the ( ? ) We are having pretty live stories here politically speaking there is a meeting about every day somewhere about here & it takes considerable time to see them all. I went to Cobleskill last Tuesday to here old Daniel S. Dickins and I tell you I were well afraid for trouble. He is a full team I tell you. Oh Boy how he comes down on Copperheads. If I was one I should not like to hear him. I could not stand it. I sould ( ? ) as it comes so thick & fast nobody can resist it. They tell us here that the soldiers are not permitted to vote unless they vote for Old Abe. ( ? ) (Leon) How is it. Did they tell you who you must vote for or did you use your own judgement in the matter. Of course I don't believe any such stuff as it is only an electionering story. But then I thought I would ask the soldiers themselves to see what they would say in regard to it. Well (now) one shall soon know ( ? ) will be Uncle (Abrahams) (honest) (comfot) (worthy) or the ( ? ) General who they say supports the rebels (ah) the ( ? ) days fight & ordered a retreat every night that's one way to go to Richmond I think.

Well Son, your family are all well I believe.

We have had good news all along back from all points. Glad to hear it and hope the Rebel ( ? ) may soon be crushed, war ended, and all the boys permitted to come home. I do not however (make the most) ( ? ) principles of the Chicago Surrender No Never and I don't believe the army wants it to close on such dishonorable terms. I don't believe there is one honest mind in that platform and if you have it can you find one single mood in it denouncing anybody but President Lincoln not one word against the rebellion. And why? – because it is not very natural for anybody to speak harshly of their friends.

Now Sons let no hope that Old Abe will be elected and Old Seymore be consigned to that oblivion which he so richly merits. Can any New York soldier so stupefy his conscience as to cast his vote for the man who would and did as long as he could deceive the soldiers of the right privilege of voting ( ? ) it ( ? )

Well Sons, write me soon and receive this from your friend,

Benj. W. Brower