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2-19-1863

Letter from John W.A. Gillespie to Editor

John W.A. Gillespie

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THE PROCLAMATION. rder and declare that all persons said designated States and parts o ter shall be free and I hereby so declared to be free to absta unless in necessary self-defenc .N. held a. of States are njoin upor am all BA the sai (0, 1) Saint Patrick, slave to Milcho of the herds Of Ballymena, sleeping, heard these words : "Arise and fiee Out from the land of bondage and be free! " Glad as a soul in pain, who hears from The angels singing of his sins forgiven And, wondering, sees rs from hea prison opening He rose a man who laid him down a slave, Shook from his locks the asbes of the grave, And outward trod Into the glorious liberty of God. cast the symbols of his sha And passing where the sleeping Milcho lay, Though back and limb Smarted with wrong, he prayed, "God pardon him!" So went he ferth, but in God's time he came To light on Uilline's hills a holy flame; And, dying, gave The land a saint that lost him as a slave O dark, sad millions, patiently and dumb Waiting for God, your hear, at last, has come, And freedom's song Breaks the long silence of your night of wrong ! Arise and fice ! shake off the vile restraint Of ages ! but, like Ballymena's saint, The oppressor spare, Heap only on his head the coals of prayer ! Go forth, like him ! like him, return ag To bless the land whereen in bitter pain Ye toiled at first, eturn again, And heal with freedom what your slavery cursed f J. G. WHITTIER.

From the 122d Regiment.

WINCHESTER, FREDERICK, Co. VA. January 23d, 1863. EDITOR COURTER:—The 122d still occupies the hights west of Winchester. Rather a co-place for winter quarters, and from the pre-ent indications we will winter in our top upon the hilk Our position b

upon the hilk Our position has some advantages and a great many disadvantages. We had hoped that winter would find us nicely ensconced in Martinsburg, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, when we found that we were not to be in active service.

halfold, when we found that we were not to be in active service. On the 21st, and the night before, we had quite a snow storm which covered the ground with snow. No doubt this is the same you have lately had in Ohio, covering the ground nearly a foot deep. But I think the depth here would not exceed three inches. It melt-ed very fast and formed slush, making it ex-tremely difficult for pedestriaus to make their way along the streets, but still we could oc-casionally hear the merry jingle of sleigh bells. Winch ster would be a fine place for sleighing as the streets are nearly level, but rather narrow, and the turnpikes leading out of it are splendid. We are expecting to receive it soon, too. We don't think there is a single man in the re-giment who would have the least objections to being paid, though we may be mistaken.—

giment who would have the least objections to being paid, though we may be mistaken.— We think not. We will soon have light bread issued to us instead of "hard tack." Our oven for baks-ing it is situated in the southern part of town. Its dimensions are 14 feet by 12. It is built of brick. It will bake about 4 to 500 loves at once. It takes three men to bake for the 122d and 110th regiments. So you see we will have plenty to fill our pantius. We have

Its dimensions are 14 feet by 12. It is built of brick. It will bake about 4 to 500 loves at once. It takes three men to bake for the 122d and 110th regiments. So you see we will have plenty to fill our pantries. We have one of considerable size in our company.— We call it "Our Pantry." For the benefit of the friends of the 122d we can assure them that all boxes, packages, &c. addressed to members of the regiment, will arrive safely. For when they arrive at Martinsburg they will be brought through to this place by teams, and wagons so Colonel Ball assures us and if you have them ready so severe as it is in Ohio. We are not so far south as to produce such change. The health of our regiment is very good, though we have sole sick. The measles has been our worst enmy. enmy.

MR.

Mr. EDITOR:-- I see the Democratic pr throughout the State continues its tirr against New England, and in the last nu

T. S. A.

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January 23, 1863 - Newspaper letter

From the 122d Regiment

Winchester, Frederick Co. Va.

January 23, 1863

Editor Courier: -- The 122d still occupies the hights west of Winchester. Rather a cool place for winter quarters, and form the present indications, we will winter in our tents upon the hill.

Our position has some advantages and a great many disadvantages. We had hoped that winter would find us nicely ensconced in Martinsburg, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, when we found that we were not to be in active service.

On the 21st, and the night before, we had quite a snow storm which covered the ground with snow. No doubt this is the same you have lately in Ohio, covering the ground nearly a foot deep. But I think the depth here would not exceed three inches. It melted very fast and formed slush, making it extremely difficult for pedestrians to make their way along the streets, but still we could occasionally the merry jingle of sleigh bells. Winchester would be a fine place for sleighing as the streets are nearly level, but rather narrow, and the turnpikes leading out of it are splendid.

We are all ready and willing to be paid off. We are expecting to receive it soon, too. We don't think there is a single man in the regiment who would have the least objection to being paid, though we may be mistaken. -- We think not.

We will soon have light bread issued to us instead of "hard tack." Our oven for baking is situated in the southern part of town. Its dimensions are 14 feet by 12. It is built of brick. It will bake about 4 to 400 loaves at once. It takes three men to bake for the 122d and 110th regiments. So you see we have plenty to fill our pantries. We have one of considerable size in our company. --We call it "Our Pantry."

For the benefits of the friends of the 122d we can assure them that all boxes, packages, &c addressed to members of the regiment will arrive safely. For when they arrive in Martinsburg they will be brought through to this place by teams, and wagons so Colonel Ball assures us, and if you have them ready send them on. The weather here is not nearly as severe as it is in Ohio. We are not so far south as to produce such change. The health of our regiment is very good, though we have some sick. The measles have been our worst enemy.

Respectfully yours,

T.S.A.