

Magge, 316 Chestnut St. Philada.



The Goddess of fair Freedom cries
The Union ne'er can be undone,
While she has brave McClellan,
Her youngest chief and son.

Portsmouth Va
Jan 25th 1863

Dear Sister

I received your last
letter the 20th and was glad
to hear that you were well
and that you had a good
time crismas and new years
I wish that I could have
been with you for I like
to skate there isnt any
place to skate down here

one day I went down to
the city and I saw some
little boys skating on some
ice about a rock ^{square} ~~square~~
they could not skate more
than two hours in the morning
before the sun would shine
and thaw the ice O Martha
we are having ~~easy~~ times
down here I have not seen
so easy times since I was
a small boy, day before yesterday
I drew a ~~new~~ suit of clothes
There has been little excitement
in camp for the past two
weeks, we expect an attack
by the Rebel cavalry from
Blackwater but I have heard
lately that the Rebs have
gone back the other side
the river if they had come
they would have got one
good licking our boys

wer all eger for the fight
we send out a company of
skirmishers every night so
that they could not surprise
us I am going to enclose
a ring for you in this
letter, which I made myself
if your agent to send me
a box tell Mother to put me
in a little yarn to mend my
sacks I must close for we
are going to have monthly
inspection to day and it will
take me some time to get
ready no more at present
love to all

W.D. Crocker
W.D. when you direct my box
direct it as follows

William D Crocker
Co F 148 Regt N.Y. 82
Portsmouth Va

In care of Captain Garbner