

Hilton Head, S.C.
January 7th 1864*

Dear Cousin

Yours of the 22nd Ult.. I received yesterday. Also one from Rogers. I have answered his. And given him a grand scolding at your expense. Will that do? He writes me that his Regt has gone into "winter quarters" Their camp is near Brandy Station Vir. His address is. J.R. Loper, Co, U, 2nd R.I Vols, Washington, D.C.

I suppose Theodore enjoyed himself more at that dinner party. than I would have done. could I have had the privalige [sic]. for I am not very social, which you perhaps well know. I have written to Myron, and I think I will get an answer this time. Rogers wrote that He. had just received a letter from Cousin Mary G[?]. Buffet. He said he dreaded to answer the letter, but could not very well get around it. Do you remember the Darrow Girls? who used to live opposite our house at Saratoga? If so you may remember their Brother John. He is the youngest of the family, and is in the 77th NY Regt. Well that Regt is reenlisting and he has gone in for another three years. "Bully" for John.

Jan 11th. Monday morning. The weather is very pleasant to day. and I hope it will remain so. for I dislike cold weather. Yesterday our Chaplain made a few remarks, and a prayer for us. In his remarks he said that the 115th Regt had a good name at Beaufort. And that we were as well drilled as any Regt in the field. He said furthermore, that our future was destined to be a "glorious" one," and our past had not been a very "inglorious one." Suppose he thinks we will have to go into battle soon. One thing is certain. We are fitting for the field. and are ready to try it any time.

The "Arbugo" has just arrived with the mail, so I will postpone this. Until I see whether there is anything for me. Jan 12th The mail has been distributed. But there was nothing for me, except a letter directed to the Orderly of Co. G. 115th N.Y. Vols. They of course not knowing or Careing who he was. The object of said letter was to see if they could not find some body. that would be fool enough to send a dollar or two to a firm in Philadelphia for some Trust. which evil Firm would send return receipt of the money. I suppose you know to what I have reference. They "cant [sic] come it" Over "this ere chile." Please remember me to Auntie Pine. To family. And write soon to your Affectionate Cousin Milton

P.S. Tell Grandma. That we do not have preaching. or anything that looks like it. very often. and that I fear. that I for the want of it. are getting to be rather a bad Boy. L.M.L.

*This letter is inside an envelope postmarked Jan 14, 1864. Someone (Jessie Salls) wrote "1862" in pencil on the envelope. But the reference to January 11th Monday matches the 1864 calendar. The Division history places his regiment at Hilton Head in late 1863 – with the regiment moving in late January 1864. Also, no one would have been re-enlisting in 1862, since no one would have time of service expired yet.