

18 Parsons Ave
Columbus, O

Dear Papa

What is the good word with you, although I have not heard from any of the family for some time hope that all is well. Are you settled in Annapolis for a while now and what are your plans for the winter. [sic] I hope the slump in the stock market will only be temporary and that dividends will not be affected.

We are settled for the winter now even to having the furnace in commission though it is just now too warm for it. What news have you of Jim and Mary [sic] I have not heard of either of them for ages suppose though that they are at Fort Snelling. By the way Major or rather Lieut Col Murray as he now is called whom you do doubt remember meeting at Fort Leavenworth has just been ordered here as Commandant at the Post. He was Jims [sic] major when we met him. Had a letter the other day from Reg he seems to like the hospital work very much and certainly was fortunate in getting the position as it will be of great value to him afterward. Has anything been done toward getting him into the Navy or army since his examination in Washington. [sic] I have been a great deal lately on inspections and similar trips. The Genl [sic] Managers [sic] inspection took up five days and in it we covered almost fifteen hundred miles of railroad. The party rode in regular track inspection cars open at the end and seats arranged as in a theater one car being at the front and rear of each train. Each car holds about twenty five [sic] and as there were four trains you can have some idea of the size of the party. The commissary department took [word faded] the meals and we really fared well in that line. We slept in Pullman cars and as I had a section was comfortable as possible although I had plenty of riding where it was all over. We went over the North and South West systems and the Vandalia R. R. The whole railroad showed up very well and in good condition to start in the winter. The general falling off of business has not affected us yet but every one [sic] expects that it soon will and of course it could not be otherwise. We have commenced economizing though in anticipation. I do hope that Rob will pull [sic] through these dull times safely imagine they are doing very little now. May went home for the week that I was away on inspection and was mighty glad to get her back again thus keeping bachelor hall is no fun.

Are you going in for the Army Navy game this year? I do not know whether we will or not but the chances are rather against it. Now about the visit you and Margaret are going to make us. Why put it off until spring better come now.

Love to Margaret and yourself from us [word faded]

Affectionately,
William

Saturday

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