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Title: Letter from Charles Gardner to “Mother”

Date: December 26, 1809

Location: O-DannJ-1973-1

Contact:

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Garrison at Carlisle

26th Decem: 1809.

Dear Mama,

I received the tin-trunk, with the letters dated the 11th Nov
but last week:— and have just received your letter of the 17th inst.
I have received everything completely, and very gratefully I am
know— according to the detail mentioned in each respect in
My finances require nice management, which I am determining
to attend;— and I will give a report of the state of them, before the
expiration of next month. I cannot be said to be in difficulty.
My flannel has been of indispensable utility to me.— I have a
supply of stockings...— My pair of gloves came very seasonably
white ones, are exactly adapted to my uniform, as it requires
Col. Simonds has been in Phil^a: for two weeks, and is expected
there today. A cadet from W. point, with whom I am acquainted
brought the trunk with him in the stage, to this place.

I get all the news from Washington. I have a slight anxiety
—perhaps like bubbles— and from as trifling a cause:— a disapprobation
merit will have as little effect, as their bursting.— for I never form
any strong expectation, without somewhat of an almost mathematical
certainty. It is founded on the General's former partiality.
Did I write you that the General with Mr. Beebe and Mr. Brig^{ad}: Gen^l: Mac
left this the beginning of this month for Washington? Mr. Beebe writes
from there, that the promotions are soon to take place. It is
my mind, the idea I conceived at Fort Columbus, when the suc-
cessor in our Regiment was spoken of, in Mr. Beebe's presence
— and the Colonel asked, whether I would be promoted. A few vac-

ad them taken place, and one but lately which gave me my step
to a 2^d Lieutenantcy - but Mr. Beebe answered readily, yes - that
Barbour was a 2^d Lieut. My idea was, that he had learnt it from
the cause, that drew more curiosity: and that the General may
valued my rank and appellation rather more significant,
he had me so closely attached to his person. He has been
recommending to get Capt. Vilscher, his former aid, reappointed - and from
the receipt from a Member of Congress, yesterday - is now using all his
means - but ineffectually. - That the President will not, this Member
think, reappoint him, - and if he do, that the Senate will not
confirm. And, I know, if the Senate do confirm, the Aid must be a
young man. Mr. Beebe who has been the General's only assistant, as to orders,
and writings, since Capt. Vilscher's removal, is ordered on duty at
Washington. The Genl is ordered to take the superintendency of the recruiting
office - and will, it is expected, take his quarters at New York, if he do
not remain at Albany. He will then be without either Aid or Brig^d In-
spector, and must soon choose his aid. If Lieut. post be not his
choice - as I strongly suspect he will - I think myself as high in
the Genl's favour as any other I know. His Brig^d 2^d Lt is no hand for the
composition, or much of anything. I will tell you of a compliment
this Brig^d 2^d Lt. paid me, at an encampment on the March. He is a thick headed
fellow - but was ordered to take of the Milit^y Agent 1,300 Dollars to defray
the expenses of our march - transportation of baggage &c.. He was complaining,
and declaiming to me, in his usual style of oratory, before several officers
of his trouble in getting the Col. to sign and furnish him with certifi-
cates &c. for what he expended. This was the Reg^t 2^d Mr. Winter's

duty - who had endeavored to complete them - but some that varied from the usual form were in arrears. Major Mapias this Brig^d 2^d Lt. said he was refered by the Col. to me. I had adapted some certificates to particular accounts which met the Colonel's ideas, and who had them - but Lt. Mapias did not think them sufficient. I had a dispute with him at this time, as to the correctness of those certificates, when he, in his numerous tirades from the Regiment to the officers and soon, that he was refered to me for everything that all arrangements proceeded from me; and that I was the Colonel of the Regiment in fact. At another time, I was still more highly Minuted - but it was for the sake of demeaning the Colonel. Two officers were present - he and another were ridiculing the Colonel's qualifications - he declared that whenever an order appeared, to the they might swear that Gardner wrote it.

I presume Papa is in good health. Write me in your next how he does - whether active, or confined to the house principally. The sale of the Mare I think good, if you be secure. If you should receive the amount of the two notes, the 1st of May, at a discount of 7 per cent - they would then be worth 74 Dlls. 27 cents.

I did not see Gov^r Smith's brother at N. Brunswick. He and uncle Aaron will have seen me, ^{out} without knowing me. My horse I got of a trustee for 5 Dlls. who had a large 5 horse wagon for our baggage.

With my love to Papa, & Julia, and to William

very affectionately

E. Gardner

CAKLETT
DEC 21

W

M^r Thomas Gardner Sen^r

Newburgh

N.Y.

of Gardner
1808



[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper.]

[Page 1- Right side damaged, missing words]

Garrison at Carlisle
26th December 1809

Dear Mama,

I received two [the two?] trunks with the letter dated the 11th Nov but last week: - and have just received your letter of the 17th just. I have received everything completely, and very gratefully I am [torn off] know – according to the detail mentioned in each respective [letter.?] My finances require nice management, which I am determined [torn off] bestow; and I will give a report of the state of them, before the termination of next month. I cannot be said to be in difficulty. My flannel has been of indispensable utility to me – I have a supply of stockings. Both pairs of gloves came very seasonably white ones, are exactly adapted to my uniform, as it requires [torn off]. Col. Simmonds has been in Phila. for two weeks, and is expected there today. A cadet from W. point, with whom I am acquainted brought the trunk with him in the stage, to this place.

I get all the news from Washington. I have a slight anxiety [torn off] - perhaps like bubbles - and from as trifling a cause: - a disappointment will have as little effect, as their bursting. – for I never [formed?] any strong expectation, without somewhat of an almost mathematical certainty. It is founded on the General's former partiality Did I write you that the General with Mr. Beebe and his Brig. Lt. Ma [torn off] left this the beginning of this month for Washington? Mr. Beebe writes from there, that the promotions are soon to take place. It [torn off] my mind, the idea I conceived at Fort Columbus, when the [torn off] vacancies in our regiment was spoken of, in Mr. Beebe's [torn off] and the Colonel asked whether I could be promoted. A few vacancies

[Page 2- Left side damaged, missing words]

had then taken place, and one but lately which gave one my step to a 2nd. Lieutenancy – But Mr. Beebe answered readily, yes – that [torn off] was a 2nd. Lieut. My idea was that he had learnt it from [torn off] cause, than mere curiosity: and that the General may [torn off] my rank and appellation rather more significant [torn off] he had me so closely attached to his person. He has been [torn off] [coming?] to get Capt. Visscher, his former aid, reappointed – and from the letter received from a member of congress, yesterday – is now using all his means – but ineffectually. That the president will not, this member [torn off] renominate him, – and if he do, the Senate will not [torn off]. And, I know, the Senate do confirm, the Aid must be a [torn off]. Mr. Beebe who has been the General's only assistant, as to orders, [torn off] other writings, since Capt. Visscher's removal, is ordered on duty as [torn off] Washington. The General is ordered to take the superintendency of the recruiting

[torn off] and with it, is expected, take his quarters at New York, if he do [torn off] remain at Albany. He will then be without either Aid or Brig. Lieutenant, and must soon choose his aid. If Lt. Post be not his [torn off] – as I strongly suspect he will – I think myself as high in nature's favors as any other I know. His Brig. Q. M. is no [head?] for the [torn off], composition, or much of anything. I will tell you of a compliment this Brig. Q. M. paid me, at an encampment on the march. He is a thick-headed fellow – but was ordered to take of the Milit's agent 1, 300 dollars to defray the expenses of our march – transportation of buggage etc. He was complaining, [torn off] declaiming to me, in his usual style of oratory, before several officers [torn off] his trouble is getting the Col. to rise and furnish him with certifi- [torn off], vouchers etc. for what he expended. This was the Reg. Q. Master's

[Page 3 – Right side damaged, missing words]

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I did not see Mr. Smith's brother at N. Brunswick. He and uncle Aaron [torn off] have seen me, without knowing me. My horse I got of a teamster – for 5 Doll who had a large 5 horse wagon for our Baggage.

With my love to Papa, and Julia, and to William

[Very?], affectionately

C.K. Gardner