



Hd. Qrs. Co I 29th Me Vols
May 8th 1865

Mrs Osgood.

Hope you will pardon me for so long neglecting to answer your kind letter. I must confess that it is not at all gentlemanly on my part.

Since my last letter to you have been on various duties, and once at home which I think the best of all had a fine time, and should have gone to Hollis but my stay was very short, and could not very well.

I left Auburn (on my return) in the morning and stopped in Portland until afternoon, thinking I would visit Dr. Bacons, by your request and Mrs. Chas. Clark, but it rained so hard I did not dare to venture out.

I was detailed last

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society
MMN # 96582

Date: May 8, 1865

Description: Sgt. Charles H. Pettengill of Auburn, wrote to Mrs. Martha Osgood of Hollis. He had corresponded with her for some time after receiving a sewing kit that she had made in which she embroidered her name.

January in the Office of the Provost
Marshall 19th H.C. and remained there
untill the 1st of April, then was detailed
as Asst. Pro. Mar. Genl. of the Middle Military
Division on Genl Hancocks Staff, and was
stationed at Harpers Ferry, had a fine time
there, and as Genl Hancock moved to
Washington was releived and ordered to report
to my Regt. which is now some three
miles from the Capital.

We are very well
encamped, and have plenty to do all the
time. Cannot go into Washington except
when we are fortunate enough to get a
pass from Genl Wilcox. I think it is
hard especially for an Officer after
being at the front all of the time
when he gets so near Washington to
be deprived of that little favor (when
these men arrived the defences of
Washington who have not (some of
them) been in the Service Eight Months
and have fine Houses to live in

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whilst we live in little shelter tents.)
can go anywhere whenever they like.
now don't you think so too.

Mrs. Osgood
I am thinking of going to Mexico
and joining the Mexican Army and
help drive the French from this part
of the world. "Do you think it would
be honorable for me to do so?"

Suppose
your Sister has left City Point as
I hear the Army of the Potomac
is on its way to Washington. Our
Regt was on duty forty-eight hours
at Washington Arsenal. Several of
the Men (and one of the Assassins)
connected with the Assassination of
our beloved President are confined there.
and they are so heavily ironed that it
takes four men to lift their irons.
and their heads are covered with cotton
to prevent them from killing themselves
by butting the walls of their cells
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I suppose you are enjoying yourself
finely this Spring, going Maying &c
my Birth day was May 1st. wish I
could be in Maine now. Say down in
Hollis.

I must say that I was a
little surprised on receiving your last letter
to learn that my correspondent was in lieu
of Miss - Mrs. Still it made no difference
to me. for I know you are a true
friend to all of Uncle Samuels Men
Suppose we will soon be mustered out
of the Army. and if you have no
objections would be pleased to exchange
Photographs with you. that is if you
think it proper. for my part can
see nothing improper in doing so.
Shall be pleased to hear from you again
soon. Does your little Association still
live. and how does it prosper. my regards
to all of its members. Please direct

I am as ever your &c
C H Pettengill
Mrs M U Osgood

Lt. C. H. Pettengill
Co I 29 Me Vols Dwights Division
Washington D.C.

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Washington
Mrs. M. U. Osgood D.C.