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(Coll. 2239, Box 6/1)  
MMN #35557

Date: Nov. 21, 1861  
Description: Ned to Persis Blanchard

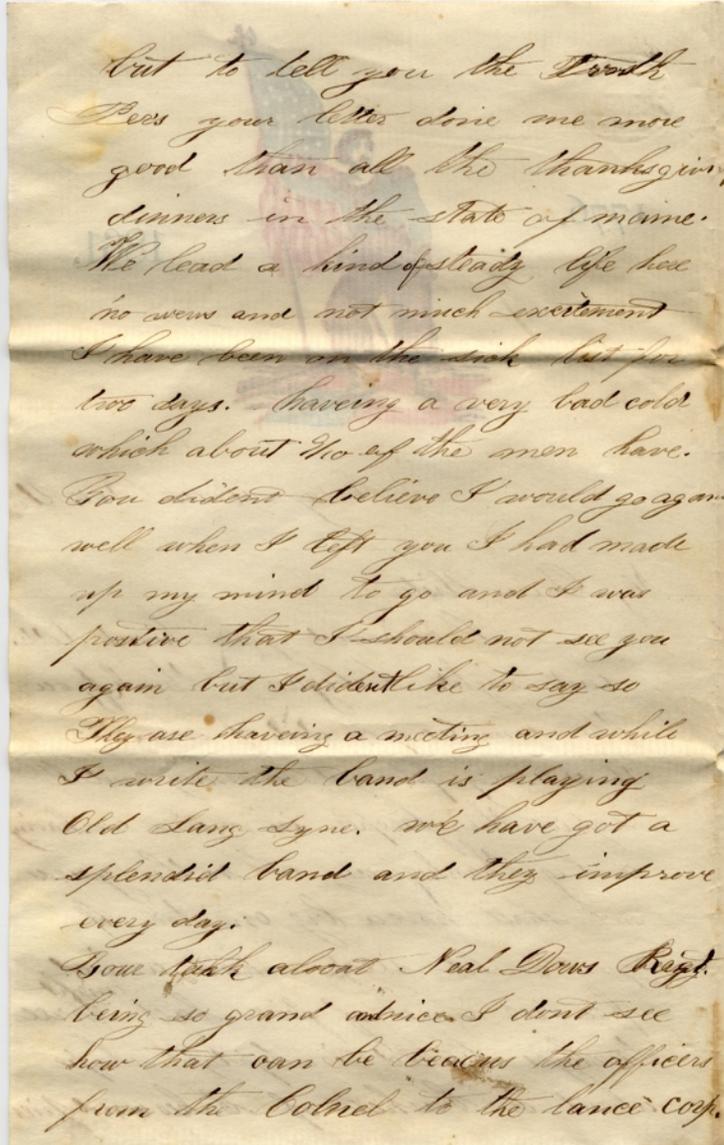
1776 [Illustration] 1861.

Relay House, Nov. 21

My Dear Sister

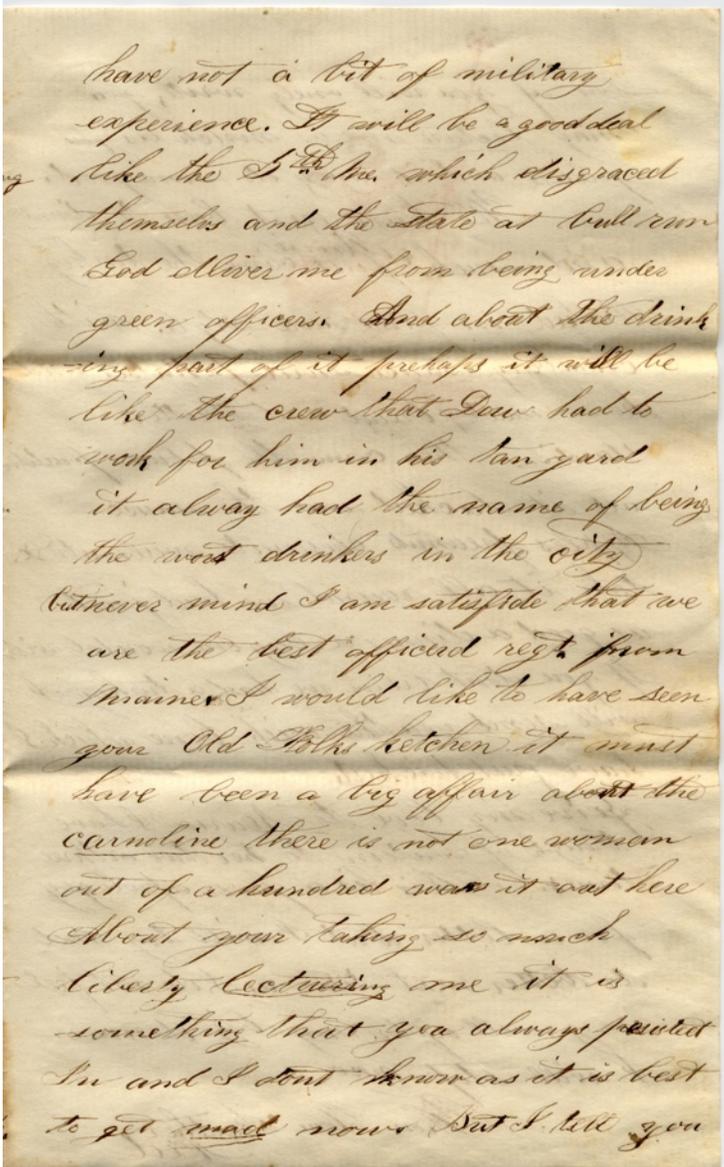
I received your kind letter last night. I began to think of you the same as you did of me. It is a very pleasant morning and I expect the people in Maine are having a big Thanksgiving. I rather guess we shall have a big one too. If you could see what arrived  
night

for our mess of five last ^ three turkeys baked in tiptop shape about a bushel of Cakes and pies



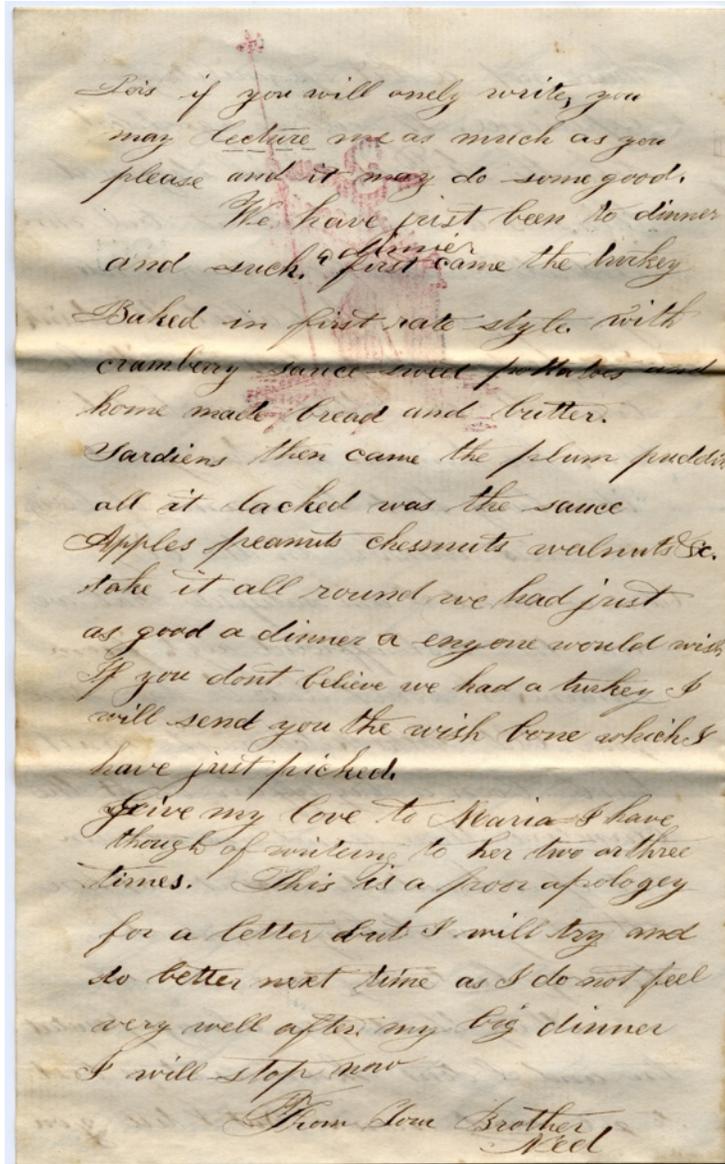
but to tell you the truth  
Per's your letter done me more  
good than all the thanksgiving  
dinners in the state of maine.  
We lead a kind of steady life here  
no news and not much excitement  
I have been on the sick list for  
two days. having a very bad cold  
which about 9/10 of the men have.  
You didnt believe I would go again  
well when I left you I had made  
up my mind to go and I was  
positive that I should not see you  
again but I didnt like to say so  
They are having a meeting and while  
I write the band is playing  
Old Lang Syne. we have got a  
splendid band and they improve  
every day.  
You speak about Neal Dows Regt.  
being so grand and nice. I dont see  
how that can be beacus the officers  
from the Colonel to the lance corp.

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have not a bit of military  
experience. It will be a good deal  
like the 5<sup>th</sup> Me. which disgraced  
themselves and the state at Bull run  
God deliver me from being under  
green officers. And about the drink-  
ing part of it perhaps it will be  
like the crew that Dow had to  
work for him in his tan yard  
it always had the name of being  
the worst drinkers in the city  
but never mind I am satisfied that we  
are the best officerd regt. from  
Maine. I would like to have seen  
your Old Folks kitchen it must  
have been a big affair about the  
carnoline there is not one woman  
out of a hundred wars it out here  
About your taking so much  
liberty lecturing me it is  
something that you always peristed  
In and I dont know as it is best  
to get mad now But I tell you

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Per's if you will onely write, you  
may lecture me as much as you  
please and it may do some good.  
We have just been to dinner  
and such. <sup>a dinner</sup> first came the turkey  
Baked in first rate style with  
cranberry sauce sweet potatoes and  
home made bread and butter.  
Sardiens then came the plum puddin  
all it lacked was the sauce  
Apples pecanuts chessnuts walnuts &c.  
take it all round we had just  
as good a dinner a anyone would wish  
If you dont believe we had a turkey I  
will send you the wish bone which I  
have just picked.  
Give my love to Maria I have  
thought of writing to her two or three  
times. This is a poor apology  
for a letter but I will try and  
do better next time as I do not feel  
very well after my big dinner  
I will stop now  
From Your Brother  
Ned

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