

ARMY AND NAVY
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

"WITH THE COLORS"

Dec. 17,

1917

My Dear Mother:-

It is just eight o'clock and am going to bed as soon as I write this letter. Am now at Camp J. C. Johnston, Jacksonville, Fla. where I will be for about three months and then sail for France as far as I know now. Arrived here last Sat. Dec. 15th at 12 o'clock noon. We left Fort Slocum Wednesday morning at 9:15 A.M. as I wrote in my other letter. This is a new camp and is not completed yet. There are now about 7000 soldiers here and there will be about 18000 more to come before the camp is filled. This is mostly ~~an~~ a training camp for the Quartermaster Corps. I am going to have my pictures taken later on and will send you one as soon as I get them. I like it a whole lot better down here for we have a good place to sleep and have good eats only I could eat twice as much as they give us. It is like a dream

beside Fort Moccasin. The last few days
it has been rather cool and have worn
our overcoats in the morning and
evening. It is a few large place and
do wish you could see the Camp
for it is quite a sight. This morning
we had our first drill and there are
200 soldiers in the Company that ~~we~~
~~are~~ am in. We drilled for about one hour
this morning and about two hours this
after noon, marching and all the other
drills. We were tired when we finished,
believe me. The whole camp ground is
nothing but pure white sand. It is
just soft a little on top and then a
hard bottom. The camp is about 14 miles
from Jacksonville center. It is very
pretty down here in Fla. and wish you
could see it while I am here. It is too
bad you live so far away or I am so
far away, one or the other. We all
were allowed to go where we pleased
last night and Sat. night, so I went
over to Jacksonville center both nights.
Sat. night I went over with one of the
contractors here and came back in



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the buss, which costs 35¢. Last night we went over ~~at~~^{on} the Govt. boat at 5 o'clock and came back on the trolley car and then walked 5 miles into camp, you see that is as near as the trolley comes to the camp but we did not mind the walk, there were five of us in the crowd. Jacksonville is a very pretty city, all Palm trees on each side of the street, in the center, and a beautiful park right across from the Winsor Hotel. That has just opened for the winter, and there are a lot of swell people there now. I wished you lived here now for I can have a pass twice a week as long as I am here from 4 o'clock in the afternoon until 8 o'clock the next morning, but I will not go in very often. We have four days furlough at Christmas time but of

course it won't do me any good, but I may go into the City for Christmas Day, that is in the afternoon. I don't wonder the white people are so strict about the colored people for I never saw so many in all my life as I saw going thru N.C. and S.C. and there are an awful lot of them in Jacksonville. There are certain seats on the trolley cars for the white and the colored. I took my bath yesterday and am going to wash my clothes to-morrow morning after drill. It takes about one hour to go up to Jacksonville on the Govt. boat and is a beautiful sail up the St. Johns river. It is time to get to bed so will finish this letter in the morning, so will say Good Night for now.

Tues. Dec. 18th. It is just 7 o'clock A.M. and have just finished breakfast and my bed is all made. We are all waiting for roll call, which is at 8 o'clock and then after that we drill. Then I have got to wash my clothes, so will be rather busy this morning.



WAR WORK COUNCIL

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guess. It is not very pleasant here this morning. It looks as though it might rain. One of the soldiers just came in and said it was raining now, so I guess we won't have any drilling if it keeps up. The wind blew very hard as I was going to bed last night, sand blowing across the fields at a great rate. The Lieut. we have is a very nice man and everyone in the Company likes him very much. He came from Iowa, I was talking with him quite a little yesterday and he told me that he was born and brought up on a farm.

How is everyone at home now, all well I hope. I am feeling fine and well. It was a hard week that I put in at Fort Monmouth though and was glad to leave, although was just getting use to it as I left. There were about four or five died while I was there. A week ago last Sat. I stood out in a snow storm up there for two and

a half hour to get my uniform. I stood
it mighty good. I hot, but am feeling fine
now, so you don't need to worry about me.
Write as often as you can Mother for
when a letter is received by a soldier, it is
like a gold mine. I have written to
Hazel every day since I left. The Y. M. C. A
and the Red Cross are both doing a
wonderful ~~work~~ work for the soldiers,
so every dollar that anyone gives to
either of them will know that it is being
well spent and helping to make the
soldiers happy.

Well mother, I have written about
all I know about for now so will close.
Remember me to everyone and hope to
hear soon.

Your Loving Son
Robert.

Address,

Robert J. Harrington.

Quartermaster Corps.

Receiving Company #12

Camp J. C. Johnston.

Jacksonville, Fla.

Barrack E-14



Mrs. Henry T. Harrington.
Grafton Street.
Shrewsbury, Mass.

answered.

From

Robert T. Harrington.
Quartermaster Corps.
Camp J. E. Johnston
Jacksonville, Fla.

19 1917
NATIONAL

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