

1/14/18

“WITH THE COLORS” YMCA

Dearest Valentine:-

Am feeling very good today
and am just wondering what I
am going to say or write about.

No new incidents have
happened since yesterday.

I am doing guard duty this
day and so have not had to
drill any. Just finished a letter
to mother and father Oh! Yes
I am going to draw you, no I
won't draw but will tell you how a barracks looks.

First our camp is laid off in
blocks just like a city. A barracks
is about 100 ft long and about
40 ft wide. It is a two story
building and quarters as many
men above as below The height
from floor to ceiling is about
ten-feet. Each room has 2 rows
of windows along side and
ends. The upper row is used in cool or cold weather for ven-

tilation as the fresh air is admitted and circulates above our cots thus allowing us fresh air without (drafts) draughts. The lower row of windows are so situated that when opened They admit the air directly across the cot and thus admits a breeze for comfort in the summer time. More than half or at least that much of the sides and ends are light and air space, that is windows. Our lower floor has 48 windows in it. Each window is about a yard each way making about 9 sq. ft to a window We have 8 electric lights on each floor and 40 cots. Thus each barracks quarter about 80 men. Three barracks compose a company Co. 33 is composed of barracks 17-18 and 19. I am on the lower floor of Barracks 17. Each company of about 250 men have a mess kitchen. Our table seats are

made of white pine as also
are our tables. No table cloths
are used but the white pine
tables always shine like mar-
ble. Everything in kitchen must
shine or someone gets h --.
Kitchen is inspected once each
day. Floors-tables and everything
must shine and be clean.

Knives and forks, spoons and
all utensils are occasionally
shined with Gold Dust Twins.
Ha! Rarely do you see soap used
in dish water or in cleaning any
thing. It is done by gold-dust.

You would be surprised to see
How clean men can be When
They Have To. I imagine
that many a man sees cleaner
eats here than he did before he
entered the army.

I just wonder if you are
worth ~~thinking~~ in the store this
day. Remember One month from

today is your birth-day (Feb. 13)

Oh! No! I meant the 14th! Ha!

Wonder if you will want the same kind of a birth-day present as I did. Ha! Do you remember?

Perhaps your natal-day and patriotic day will come at the same time, then you couldn't accept such a present as I wanted.

You will notice that I am indeed very careless in my writing. It looks more like chicken-tracks everyday, but as long as you can understand and read it I shall not worry.

Well I did write a little, didn't I? Perhaps if I would have been with u last night (Sun. nite) I could have written a book. Ha! Do you reckon. Hoping this finds you once again selling suspenders and such as clerks must do. I am as ever

Yours,

Wes

Notice the violet ink.

Springtime here. Ha! Ha!

YMCA

“WITH THE COLORS”

Miss Opal Valentine Baker

Sulphur Spring

Henry County Indiana

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From Wes L. Bouslog, Q. M. C.
Camp Josph E. Johnston,
Rec. Co. 33, K. 17
Jacksonville, Florida,
U.S.A.