

Jacksonville, Fla.
Jan 5 - 1918

Dear Friend Stella -

Thought I would write
this afternoon as I am off and
have a little time to myself. The
last time I wrote you I think
I told you I was off for the day but
one of the cooks got sick and the
other was transferred and I left
me to get supper. I sure had a
time but come out alright and
had supper on time. I have
learned quite a little about
cooking for the army but there is
plenty for me to learn every day.
There is about four hundred men
eating at our place each meal
now. I had a chance yesterday
to go to France but didn't take
it for I am not ready to go they
may take me any way a little
later. They sure must mean
business next spring for there
is some learning here most every
day. The truck company are
going faster than anything else
and that is what they wanted
me for was to go as a cook
for one of the truck companies.
I don't want to cross over before
spring. Here they will let me

stay here this long, what do you
think about the war by now?
I don't get to read much since
I have been down here lots of
time I go to work at four thirty
in the morning and don't get there
until eight or nine that night so
you see it is rather long day,
what do you think about me going
to France? I don't think I will
have to for a month or so and
again I may get a regular
place here, I have been expecting
to get a letter from you for several
days but haven't yet the last was
Dec. 26th. I heard from home the
other day and they have been
hearing from me regular and I
have been writing about every three
days I got two letters from mother
yesterday afternoon one was
written on Dec. 28th the other Dec. 31st
and they got here the same time
I am in a place where I don't
lay the blame on you if I don't
hear for I know the mail is
so slow getting to us out here
if you don't hear from me
when you think you ought to
and have time don't for get to
write for I am always glad
to hear from you for I get

more please out of reading letter
then most anything else now,
The boy that came down here with
me has been transferred to another
company but is still in this
camp I don't get to see him as
often as I did. The army is a
place where you don't hardly
ever see a stranger but all of
the boys are friendly. There is
lots of married men down
here lots of them has gotten
married since the war was
declared. Some are satisfied
and again other are not,
they are trying to drill the
boys down here with rifles
now. They didn't start that
until this week. When ever
the boys begin to drill with
the gun in this camp they
can get ready to cross for
that is what that means,
I haven't drilled a single time
don't know they may transfer
me most anytime, I have heard
may they about the army in the
short time I have been in here.

and there is plenty to clean
every day, I had a letter from
Sexton the other day it takes about
five hours to go down where she
lives. Their perhaps I will go
there some time before long.
Well it is almost supper time
I guess I had better close
and help the boys some with
supper. Be a good girl and
don't work too hard,

Your friend,

Walter Patchy

Camp

Joseph E. Johnston

Jacksonville, Fla.



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MILITARY

Miss Stella Weddell

Laneing
Tenn

5-5-1862
Walter P. Smith
Camp Joseph G. Snodgrass
Black & Green Co
Jacksonville
Fla