

Lancing, Tenn.  
2/9/19.

Dear Walter,-

I wish I knew my letter would be half as interesting to you, written by a warm fire as yours are to me when you use a kettle lid for a writing desk.

Your letter written the 21st + 22nd of December reached me just a week ago. Every day since I have thought I would answer but these first few days at home again without a Mother are so hard, and I don't want to write much of that for I know you see enough sadness even if you don't write about it.

The girls had a good chance to sell the store and we thought everything considered it was best.

Prices will fall, in fact they have already and, <sup>you</sup> would rather someone else would have the responsibility. John H. Hall bought our stocks and he is a man of experience and not a very troublesome conscience and he will do well.

I don't know what I'll do now. Stay at home I guess the rest of the winter. A little rest seems good and it is too lonely for Gladys here by herself. For about four months she has been alone nights. Teaching home school has made the days pass off but she is braver than I am at night. If I am here an hour by myself after dark I imagine there is someone snooping around the house. ha Libbie spends part of the time with us some other girls come to visit us often and we have some good times. Papa is still teaching at Sunbright.

I'm glad you wrote just what part of the army you are in. I'll know more where you are.

You have been in some of the most dangerous places I know and I don't feel like you are exactly safe yet but isn't it wonderful to be able to do your bit in a great crisis like this one.

O, I wish I could in some way have helped win the victory.

You are having a chance now  
to see some of the country. Write  
me all you can about it and  
remember all the rest till you come  
home. ha (as though you would forget!)

I'm so glad your Xmas box reached  
you safely in good time.

I wonder if you are having much  
cold weather. If the north wind  
blows as cold where you are today  
as here, it isn't very comfortable out of  
doors. Wish I could share my nice  
warm fire with you this evening.

Be a good boy and write often  
and we will hope the mail goes  
straight for I miss your letters  
when they don't come.

Your friend,

Stella.