

Newark, Ohio.  
June 29th 1943.

AUG - 4 REC'D

Dear Philinda & William:

L-275  
P1/2

I am much ashamed that I have not written to you sooner, but it is so hard to find the time and quite a few times I might scratch a few lines if the machine were not busy.

Your letter of June 2nd came June 24th, much better time than so of the others have made. We were very sorry to know that Philinda has been sick and we all hope that she is well now. Malaria is a bad thing, so you must be very careful and keep away from it as best you can.

The description of your trip to the frontier was quite interesting and we enjoyed it very much. It was just a shame that Philinda could not have enjoyed it more, nothing is very interesting when you have a temperature of 104. I hope that you were able to take some pictures as you went along but I doubt if you took the time.

The war news seems to get better every day and we expect to hear, at any moment, that something is happening in Europe. The labor situation has been none too good over here but the bill that the Congress passed over the President's veto will probably help the problem out. It looked as though Lewis was running the country but I believe the Connolly bill will stop some of that at least for the duration.

The merchandise situation gets more serious every day and our shelves are quite bare of many items. They talk of making articles for farm use but to date we have been unable to get any of them. We did get in sixteen dozen screen windows a week ago today and they were all sold by Saturday. We also had ten dozen screen doors in the shipment and we have a few of them left. We have no wire cloth of any description, no poultry netting or fence and no smooth wire, no garden tools or mechanics tools, no flashlights or batteries and no guns or ammunition, no galvanized ware of any kind. We are short on about seventy five per cent of what the customers ask for. The outlook is quite discouraging for retailing at this time.

I sent your last letter to Janie and asked her to return it at once but so far it has not come back. I am going to try the new address with the amendment given in your letter of June 2nd and trust that it will reach you. Possibly I had better not do that as I am not sure of that part of the address beyond A.P.O 606-A.

In Sarah's letter I added that I would forward the box to you that came back, but I decided that it was not worth the money at this time as the only things were the fruit cake and cigarettes. I am glad that you got the box the had the big end of the things in it. I did not send the ties for as I told you I sent the letter on to Janie and am not so sure as to how you wanted them sent, but I shall get them and send them to Perry Jester, State Dept., and write him and ask him to forward them to you. I am sure that that is the way you said to send them.

I have had <sup>NDT</sup> a chance to go to the farm in Coshocton county this spring, so I do not know how things are going. I told you that I had a man living in the house and Penick takes care of the fruit.

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Speaking of fruit, the crop is going to be short in our section as we had such a wet spring and the polonization was not good. Peaches, however, are the best that we have had for several years so that will help the fruit men who have them along with the apples.

We have just had more than we could do at Hanover, the grass got so high that we have had a time getting it back down and as we have over an acre to mow it keeps us busy. Our garden is not what it should have been, but we have had plenty of beans and peas and have put quite a few in the Zero lockers at the Ice Plant. How are you and Philinda making out with your supplies, you spoke of ordering from the states and am wondering if you made a go of it.

I saw Bud Francis once since he came back to make his headquarters at Memphis. Believe that he is still making the trips to Africa and I hope that you have had a chance to see him. Did you ever get to see the Younce boy again. Bud Crawford was married a few weeks ago in Wooster, do not remember the girls name. It is just quite difficult to keep up with all of the doings of the "kids".

Had a letter from Pa and he says he is just about the same, might say that Uncle Cary is getting along fairly well. Betty is just as cheerful as ever and doing quite well with the Doctors exchange.

The Alcoa plant is coming along fine and part of it is in operation, it is a big affair and I hope that it will continue after the war is over. Goodyear Aircraft is quite busy in the little plant at the Burke Golf plant.

Melody is going to start back to Denison on Tuesday the fifth. They now have the Navy at Denison and have the year divided into eight week periods, do not know just how that will work out but presume that they know what they are doing.

Had a letter from Walter Kinney last week, he is still at Camp Beale California and I do not think that Walter likes army life any too well. He had been on a twenty five mile hike with full equipment and said it was just about all that he could do to make it. Quite a few did not make it and had to do it over. He is with the Armed Engineers and they are always out in front preparing the way.

Ollie seems a little better is still plugging along, he will not give up and that possibly is best for him as he could never be satisfied sitting still.

I must close for this time as we are getting busy. I do hope that you both are well and have the malaria whipped. We are all well as usual except that Sarah had a little sty and had to have Clark Hatch lance it yesterday, it is better this morning.

Love and best wishes to you both,

*Daddy.*