



Virginia Camp
Griffin Dec 15th 61

My Simons

Sir I received

your letter and was glad to hear
from you and know that you
were well and had not forgotten
me we have moved about a mile into
a little pine grove where it is as
pleasant as summer time. you do not
know how how I want to see you
I am homesick as the Devil. I dreamt
last night I was with you in
George Becket's grocery. Cracking
chestnuts. I was enjoying myself
you had better believe, but last Sunday
morn and Frank had picked the clothes
all off me I was half starved with



cold when I woke up, I altered my
 mind pretty damn quick. Snapped
 I wish it might be so. I hope we
 will meet again and we will make
 make up for lost time about
 that turkey wash you must keep
 cool about that Charley got hold
 of the letter he and Dick was
 mad at me to think I had told
 you about it, you must never tell them
 that I told you anything about it they
 say wish that I have got to be Father
 you must write the circumstances
 there was a little girl her name
 was Kate she eat all the potatoes
 and shit on the plate, tell orin
 to be careful and not fall off from the

Barn, nor get his hands into any more
but third. I see Henry Marsh he said
he had written to you two or three times
and he was going to write again his
brother was sick with the consumption
he was carried to the Hospital yesterday
he can not stand its long you must
take care of yourself Saml he tough
and rugged, so as you and I can
stand it when I go back do not
let no one see this but yourself
tell Joseph Williams that he must
write to me, and I will answer
it, I want you should write to
me how many oats ~~we~~
had, or if he thrashed all of it
or what good times we used to
have Did not we wash, we will
have some more yet I think
you must give my love to all
I know there tell Henry Gilman
that I would like to hear from
him once in whiles
Chester
Clark

is carried to the Hospital sick
but is not Dangerous. Frank's Spirit
is as happy as a King he enjoys
himself tip top here he speaks
of you and Orin every Day
tells Eliza that I have not heard
from her yet I would like to
have her write often there is your
timber out here and I shall bring
home a chunk for to make
linch pins when she can ride
out let her see those few lines
and not any more, you must
write wash often and I will
consider as often as I have time
you must remember me as
long as you live and I will you
keep up good courage If I never
live to see you I will speak for
a place you in the next year
I cannot think of any more now so you
bye absent Friend, Don Richards

JOHN WAITE RARE BOOKS

FINE BOOKS, MANUSCRIPTS, AND EPHEMERA
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"I am homesick as the Devil."

(CIVIL WAR - LETTER) *Four page holograph letter signed "Don P. Nichols" to a "Mr. Simonds" on pictorial letterhead from Camp Griffin in Virginia dated December 18, 1861.*

Single cream sheet with printed decoration; written in ink recto and verso; few minor stains; faintly creased for mailing; near fine.

Vermont soldier writing a friend about his own homesickness and illness at Camp Griffin: "You do not know Nash how I want to see you. I am homesick as the Devil. I dreamt last night I was with you in George Becket's grocery. Crackling chestnuts. I was enjoying myself you had better believe. At last I waked up and Frank had kicked the clothes all off me... I see Henry Marsh he said he had written to you two or three times and he was going to write again. His brother was sick with the consumption. He was carried to the Hospital yesterday he can not stand it long. You must take care of yourself... be tough and rugged so as you and I can stand it when I go back... Chester Clark is carried to the Hospital sick but is not Dangerous... You must remember me as long as you live and I will you. Keep up good courage..." Private Don Nichols served with Co. B of the 4th Vermont Infantry. Some Vermont units sustained their highest casualties of the war during the winter of 1861-62 at Camp Griffin. \$150.00

MEMBER ABAA

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