James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Section 10, Pages 271 - 300

Around 1919, the Kansas State Historical Society and the American Legion solicited biographical information from returning veterans (primarily members of the 35th and 89th infantry divisions) and the families of those who died in service, notably from the Gold Star Mothers. Each veteran or family member was asked to provide letters, photographs, a biography, and military records. This file contains letters and their transcriptions from James Emerald Northrup, Company F, 110th Ammunition Train, 35th Division.

Creator: Northrup, James Emerald

Date: 1917-1921

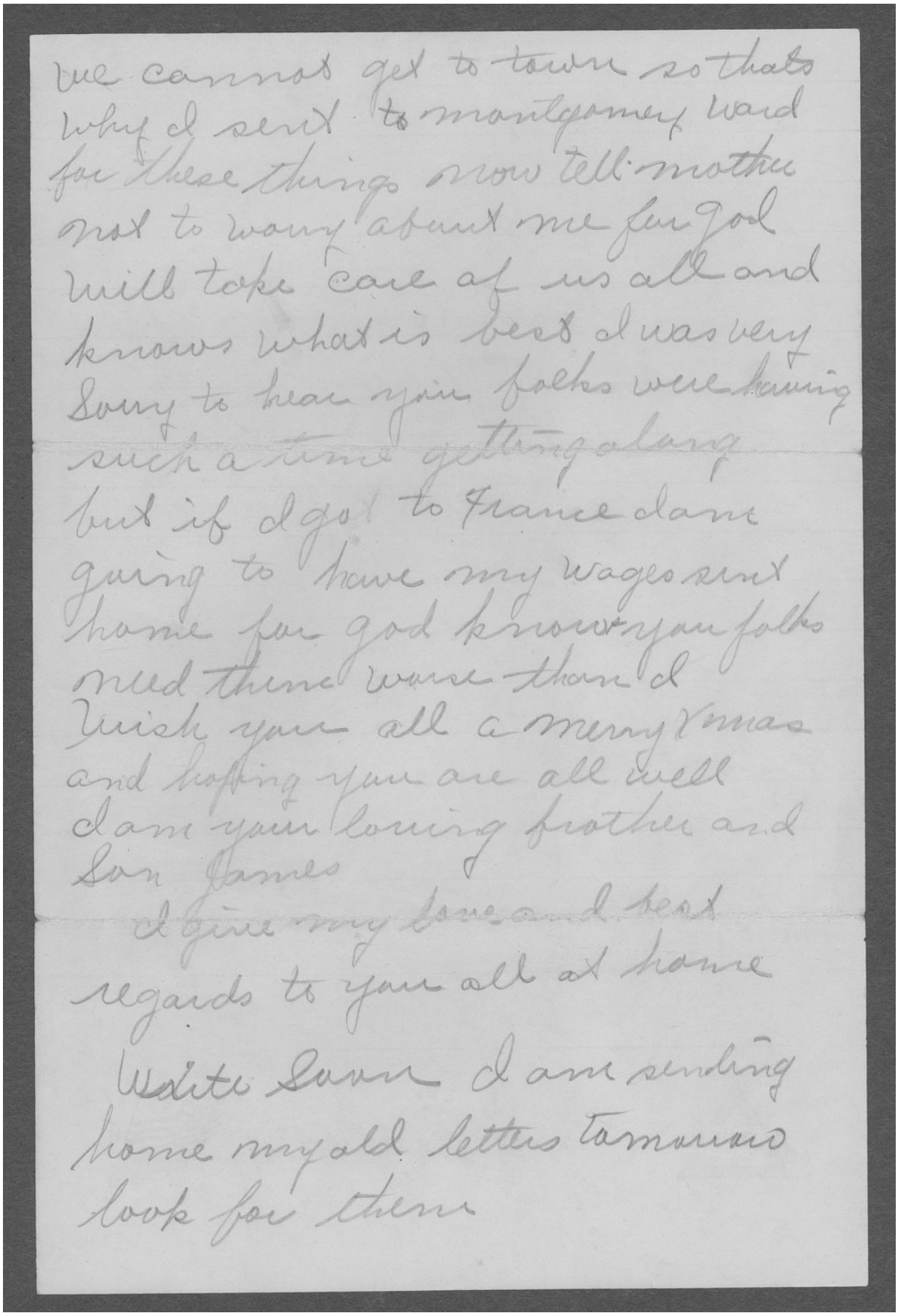
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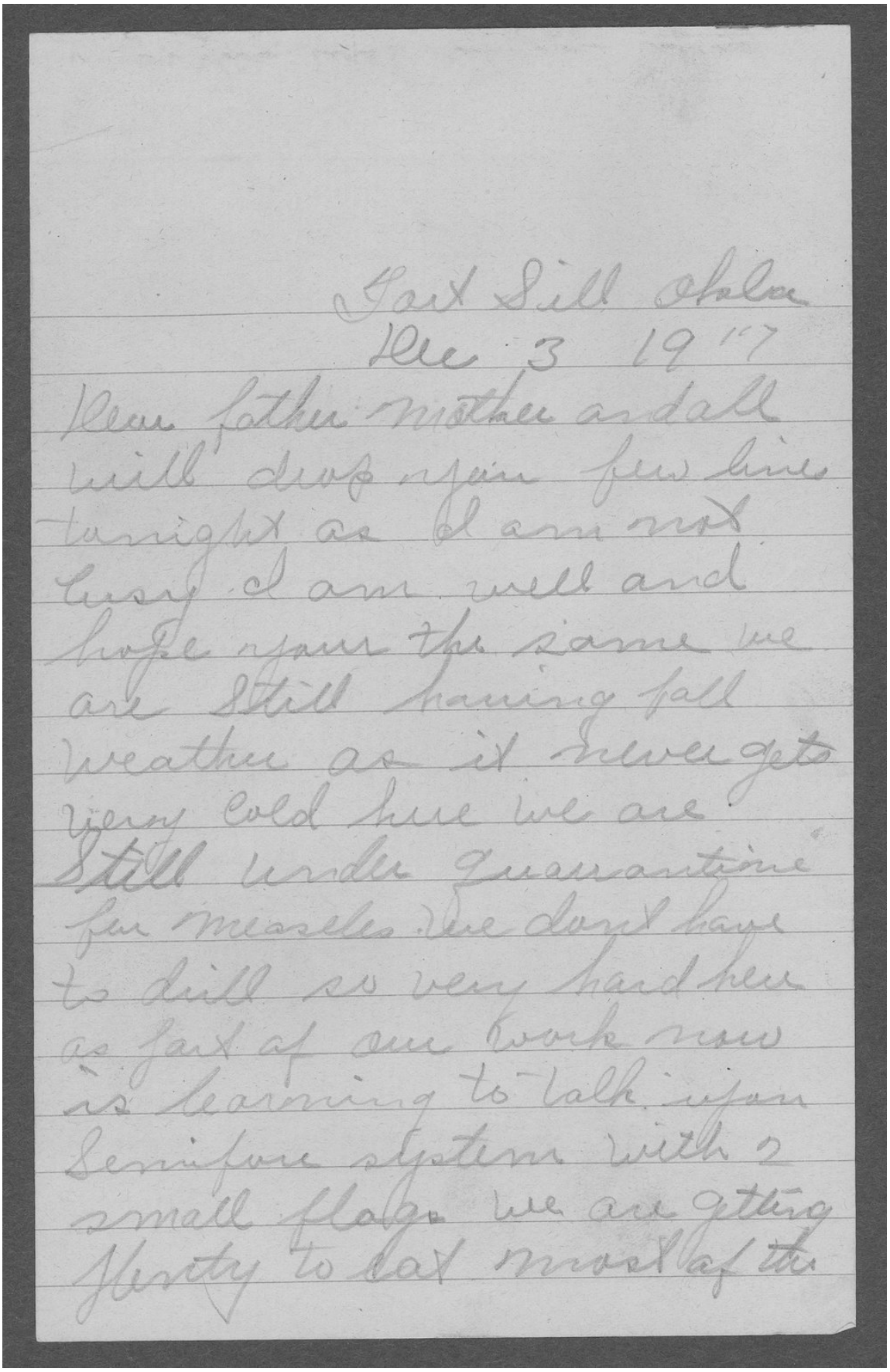
James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



we cannot get to town so that's
why I sent to montgomery ward
for these things now tell mother
not to worry about me for god
will take care of us all and
knows what is best I was very
sorry to hear you folks were having
such a time getting along
but if I got to France I am
going to have my wages sent
home for god knows you folks
need them more than I
wish you all a merry Xmas
and hoping you are all well
I am your loving brother and
son James
I give my love and best
regards to you all at home

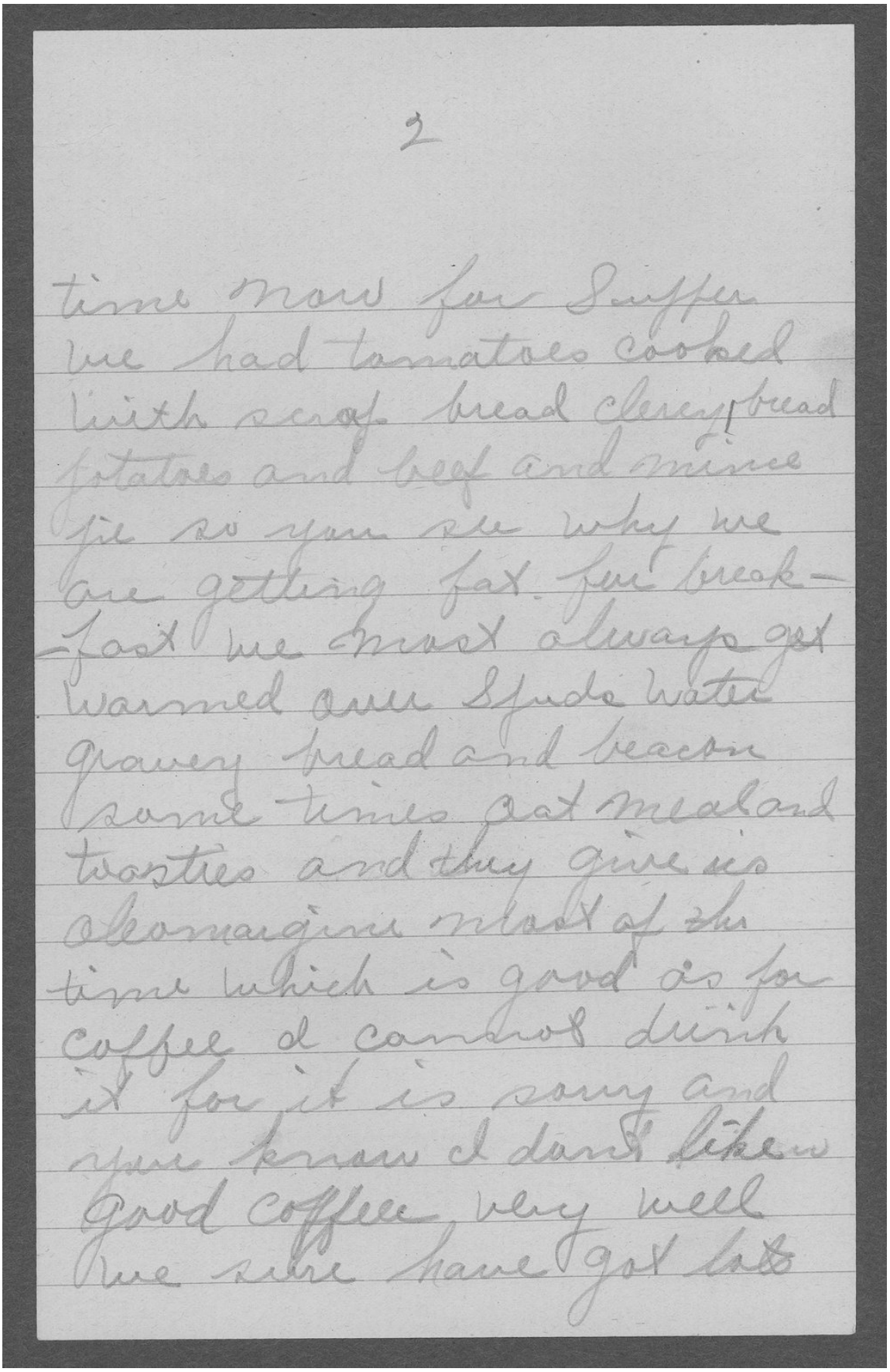
Write soon I am sending
home my old letters to remind
look for them

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



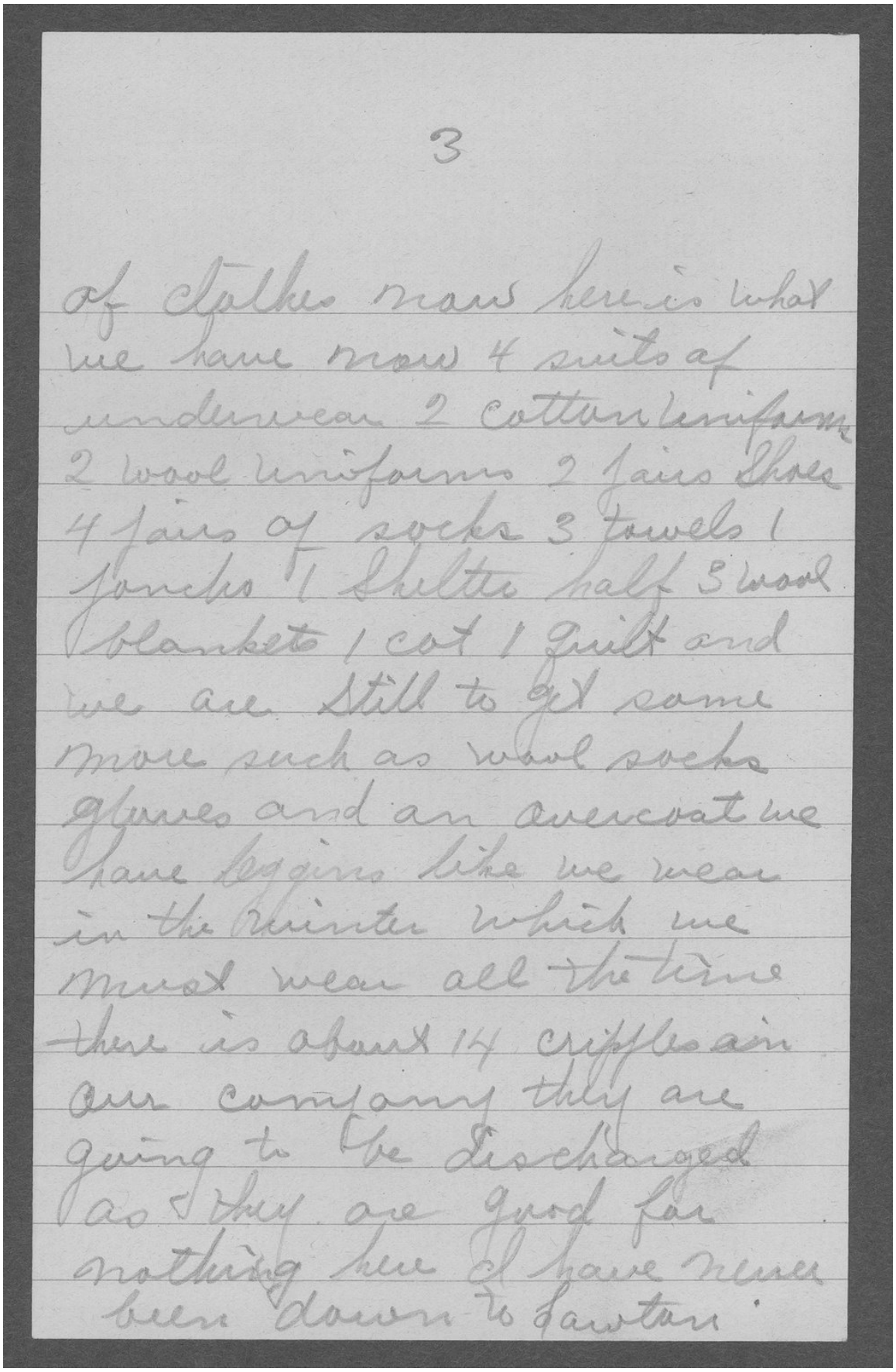
Fort Sill Okla
Dec 3 1917

Dear father mother and all will drop you few lines tonight as I am not busy. I am well and hope you the same we are still having fall weather as it never gets very cold here we are still under Quarantine for measles. We don't have to drill so very hard here as part of our work now is learning to talk upon Semiphore system with 2 small flags. We are getting plenty to eat most of the



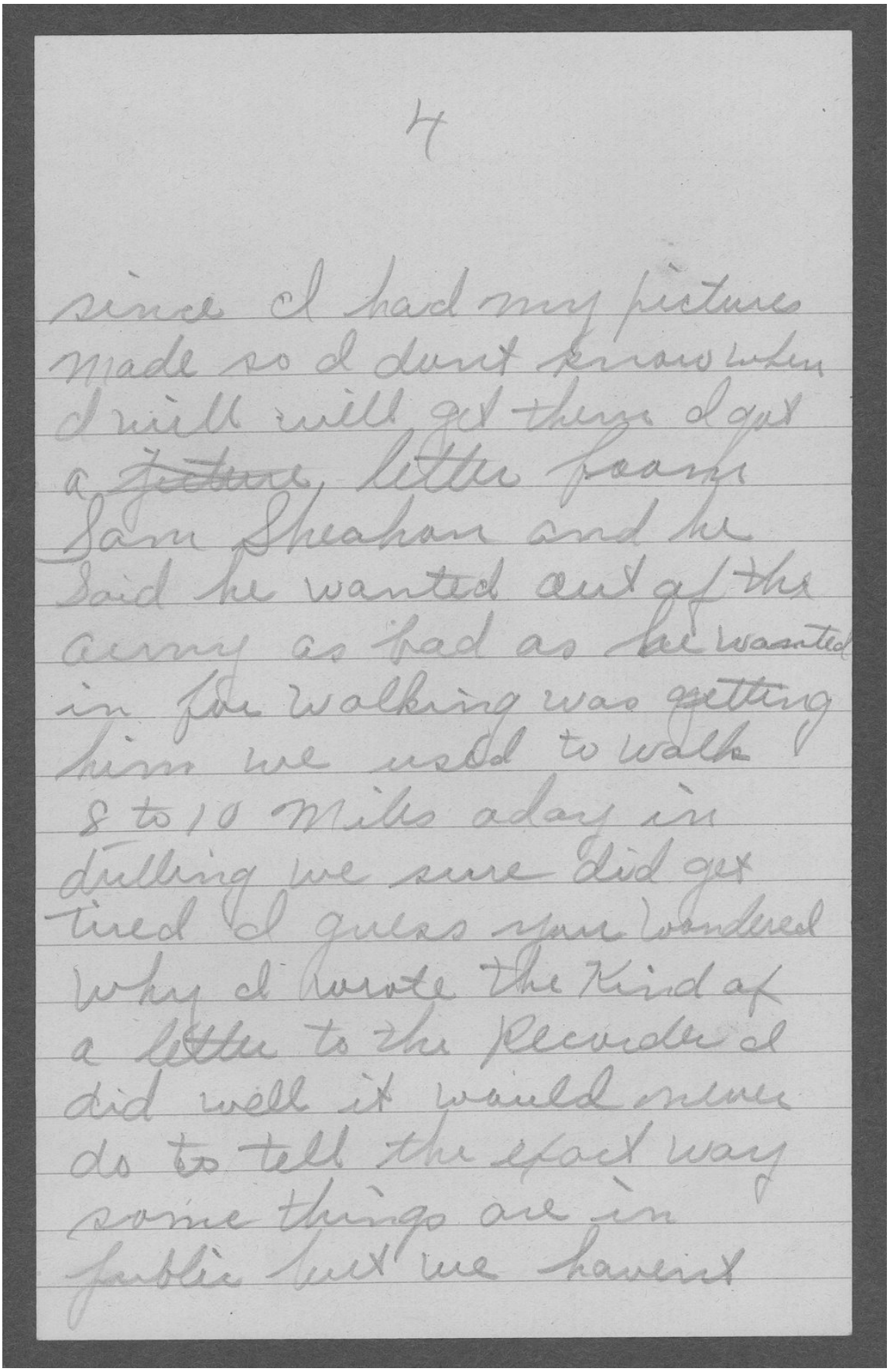
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time now for Supper we had tomatoes cooked with scrap bread cleary bread potatoes and beef and mince pie so you see why we are getting fat for breakfast we most always get warmed over Spuds water gravey bread and beacon some times oat meal and toasties and they give us oleomargine instead of the time which is good as for coffee I cannot drink it for it is sorry and you know I don't like no good coffee very well here since have got into



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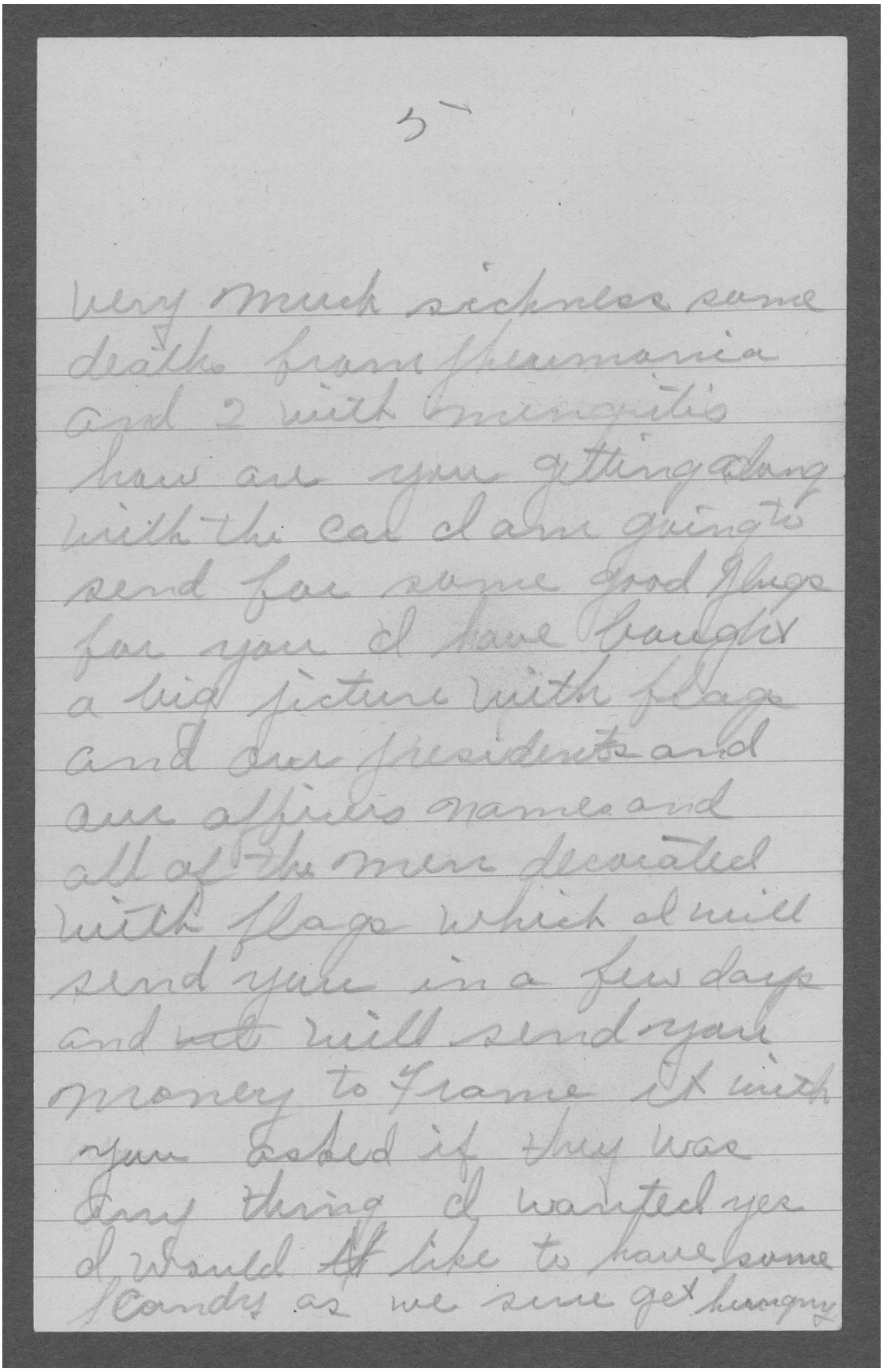
of clothes now here is what we have now 4 suits of underwear 2 cotton uniforms 2 wool uniforms 2 pairs shoes 4 pairs of socks 3 towels 1 poncho 1 shelter half 3 wool blankets 1 cot 1 Quilt and we are still to get some more such as wool socks gloves and an overcoat we have leggins like we wear in the winter which we must wear all the time there is about 14 cripples in our company they are going to be Discharged as they are good for nothing here I have never been down to Lawton



4

since I had my pictures made so I dont know when I will get them I got a ~~letter~~ letter from Sam Sheahan and he said he wanted out of the army as bad as he wanted in for walking was getting him we usd to walk 8 to 10 miles a day in drilling we sure did get tired I guess you wondered why I wrote the kind of a letter to the Recorder I did did well it would seem do to tell the exact way some things are in public but we haven't

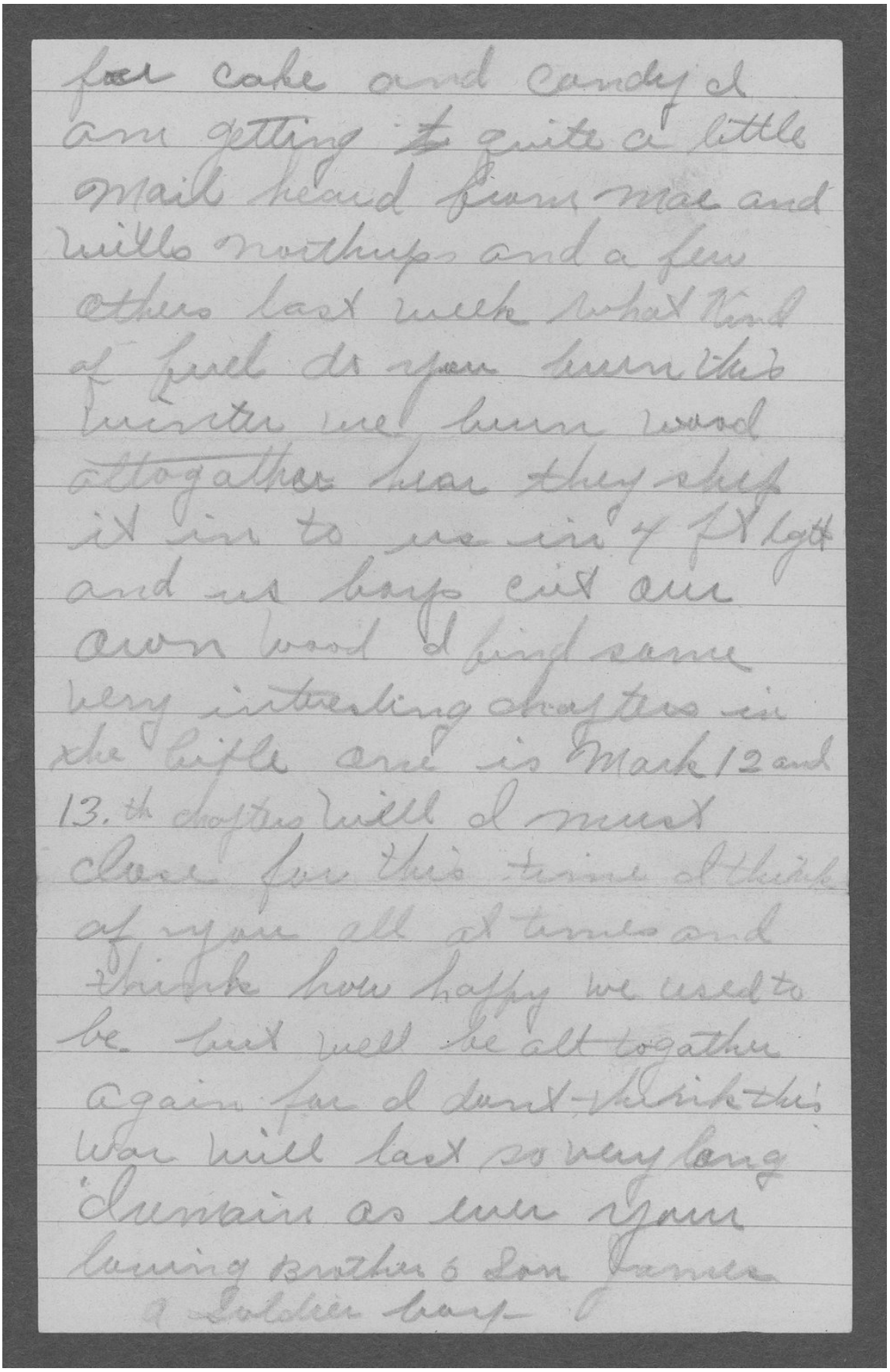
James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



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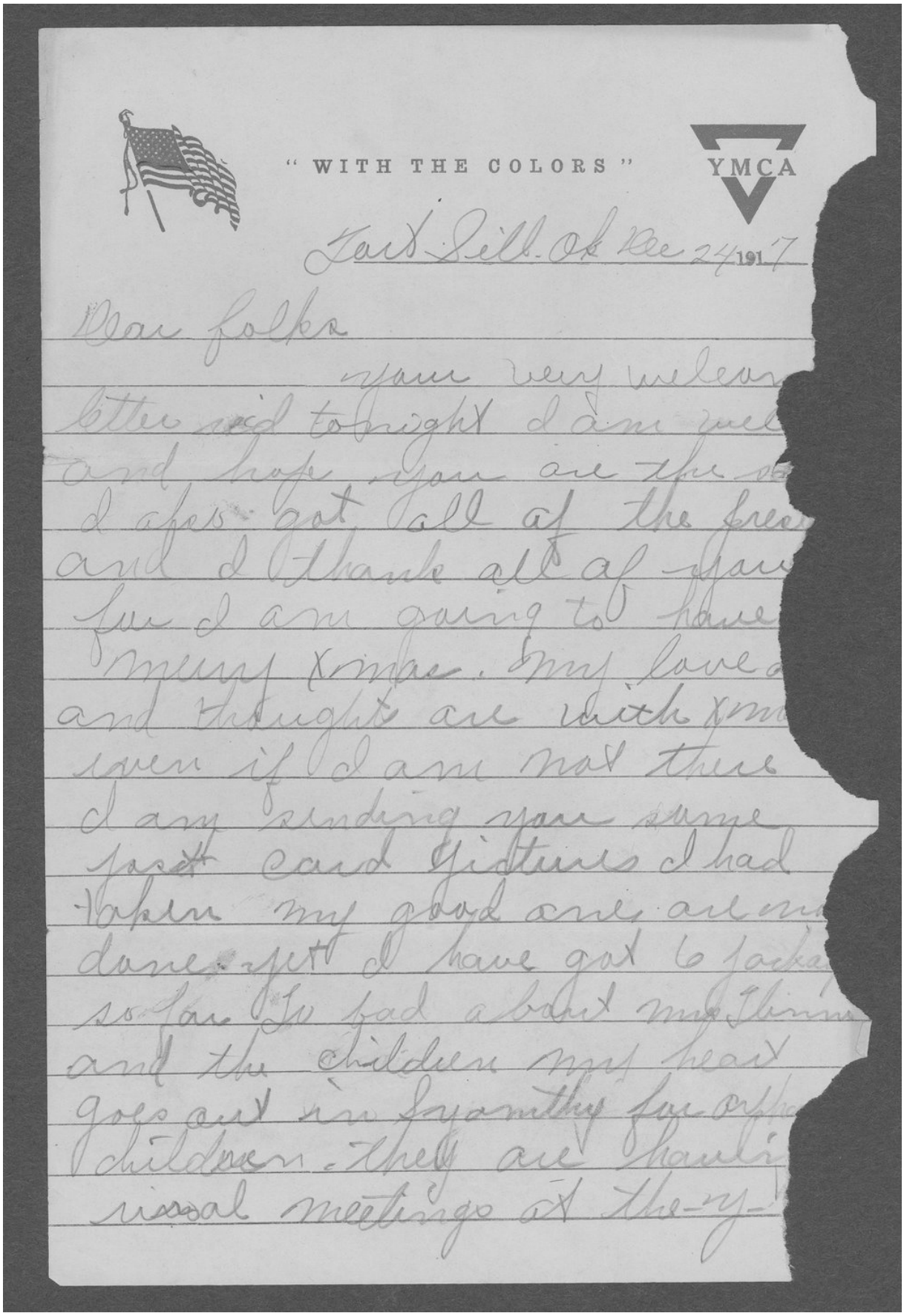
very much sickness some deaths from pneumonia and 2 with meningitis how are you getting along with the cat I am going to send for some good things for you I have bought a kid picture with flags and our presidents and our officers names and all of the men decorated with flags which I will send you in a few days and I will send you money to frame it with you asked if they was any thing I wanted yes I would like to have some candy as we sure get hungry

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



for cake and candy I
am getting quite a little
mail heard from Mac and
Willis Northups and a few
others last week what kind
of fuel do you burn this
winter we burn wood
altogather but they ship
it in to us in 4 ft lgth
and we boys cut our
own wood I find some
very interesting chapters in
the Bible and is Mark 12 and
13. th chapters will I must
close for this time I think
of you all at times and
thinke how happy we used to
be but well be all togather
again for I don't think this
war will last so very long
I remain as ever Your
loving brother & Son Farmer
a Soldier boy

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



" WITH THE COLORS "

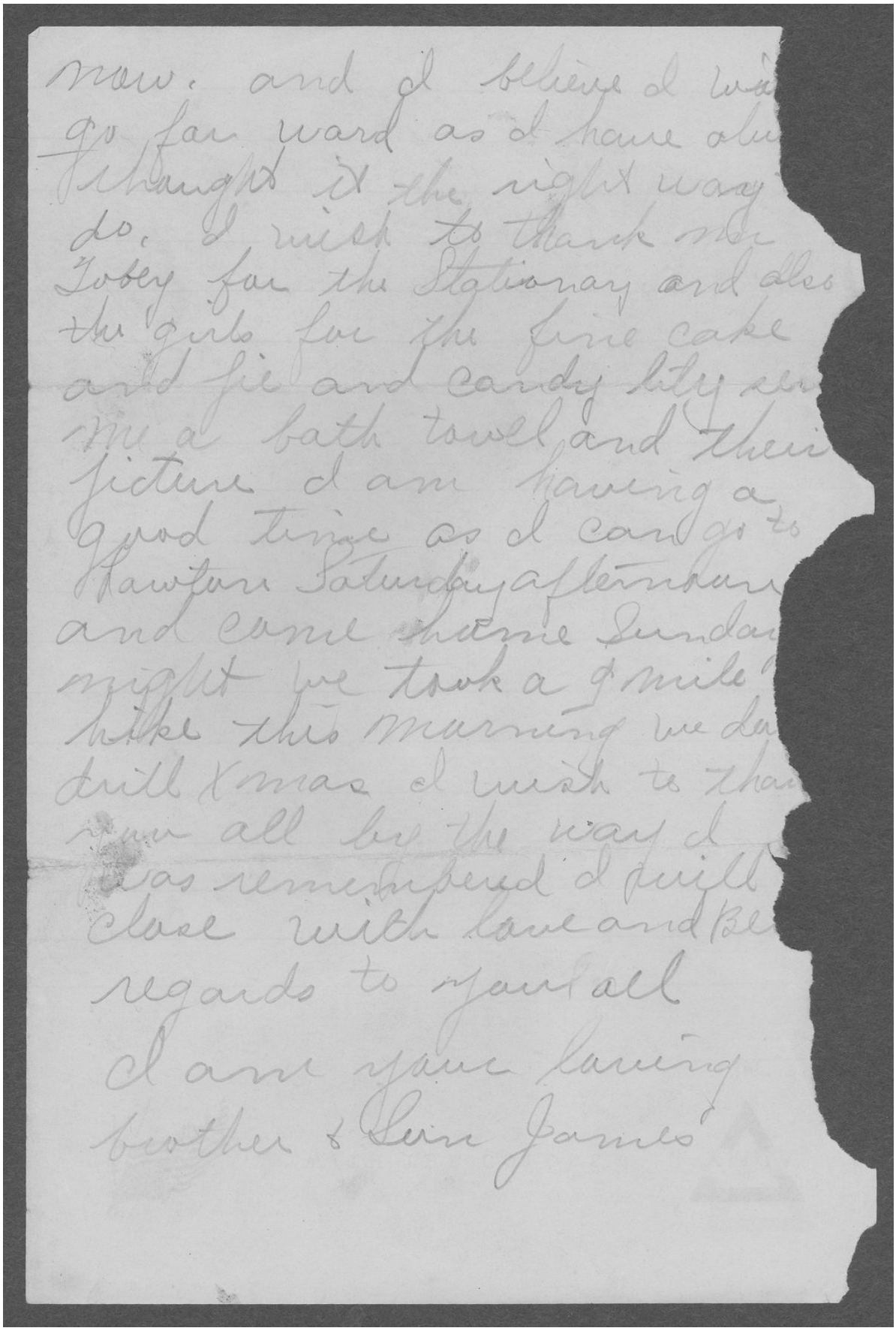
YMCA

Fort Sill. Ok Dec 24/1917

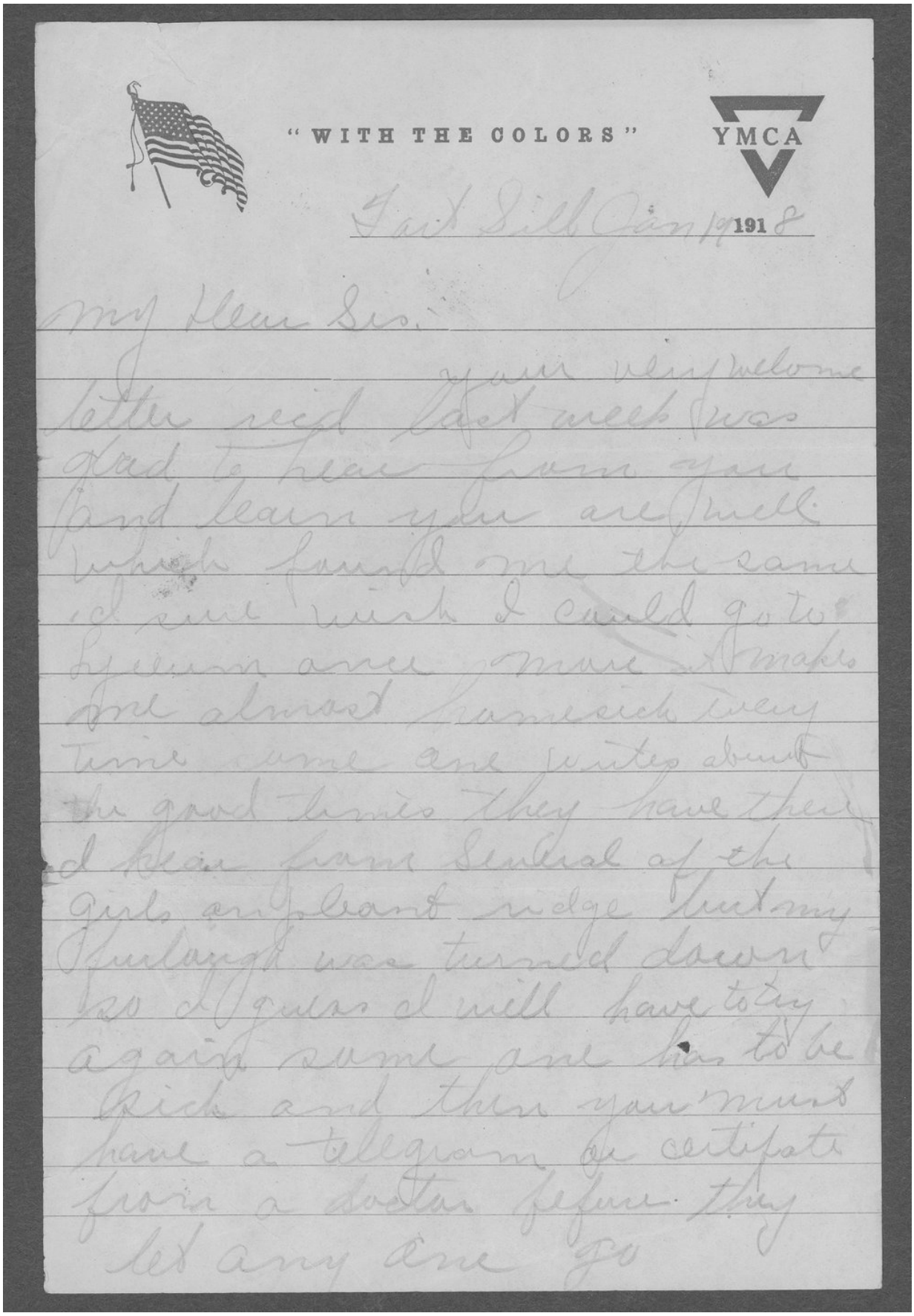
Dear folks

your very welcom
letter rec'd tonight I am well
and hope you are the sa
I also got all of the trea
and I thank all of you
for I am going to have
merry x mas. My love a
and thoughts are with you
even if I am not there
I am sending you some
post card pictures I had
taken my good one are all
done yet I have got 6 packa
so far. I'm sad about my Thanks
and the children my heart
goes out in sympathy for all
children. They are thankin
missal meetings at the Y-

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier


now. and I believe I will
go far ward as I have also
thought it the right way
do. I wish to thank Mr
Tobey for the Stationary and also
the girls for the fine cake
and pie and candy they sent
me a bath towel and their
picture I am having a
good time as I can go to
Hawtan Saturday afternoons
and come home Sunday
night we took a 9 mile
hike this morning we had
drill Xmas I wish to thank
you all but the way I
was remembered I will
close with love and Best
regards to you all
I am your loving
brother & Son James

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

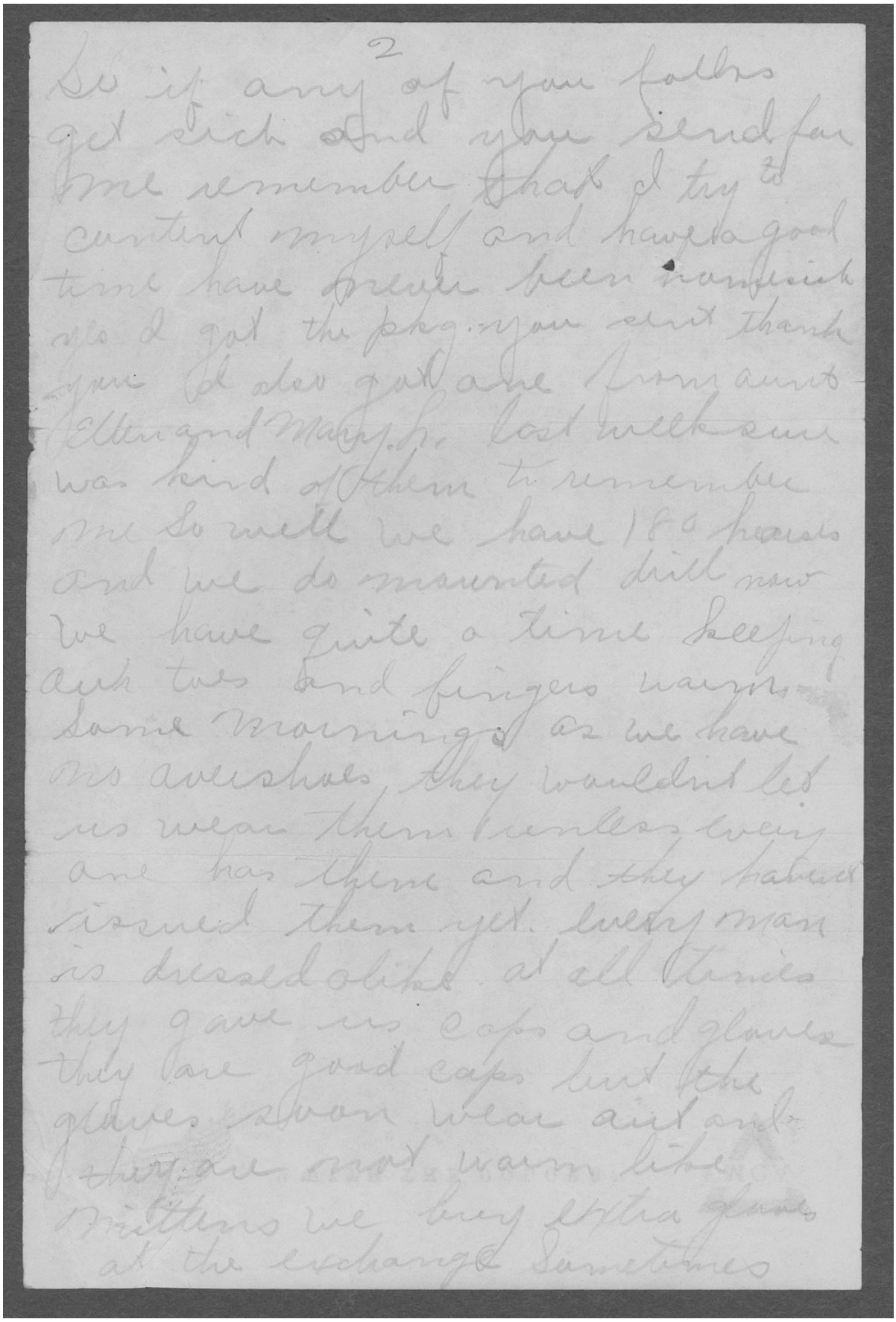


"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

Fort Sill Okla 1918

My Dear Sis.

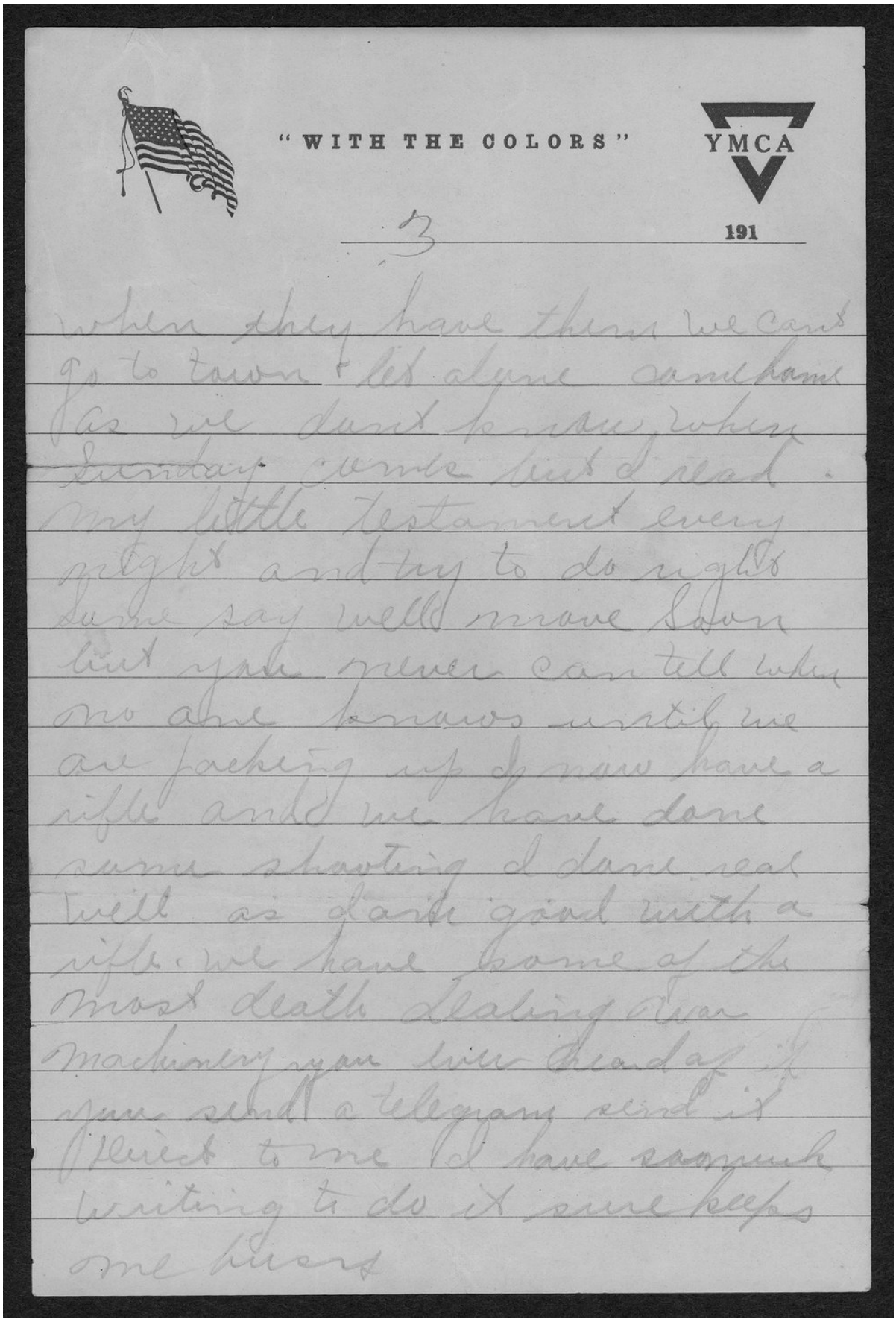
your very welcome letter reed last week was glad to hear from you and learn you are well which found me the same I am sure wish I could go to Lyons and see you make me almost homesick every time come and write about the good times they have there I hear from Central of the girls and Leonard ridge but my furlough was turned down so I guess I will have to stay again some one has to be sick and then you must have a telegram or certificate from a doctor before they let any one go



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So if any of you folks get sick and you send for me remember that I try to content myself and have a good time have drunk beer nonstick yet I got the pkg. you sent thank you I also got one from aunt Etta and Mary P. last week sure was kind of them to remember me so well we have 180 recruits and we do mounted drill now we have quite a time keeping our toes and fingers warm some warning as we have no overshoes they wouldn't let us wear them besides every one has them and they haven't issued them yet. every man is dressed alike at all times they gave us caps and gloves they are good caps but the gloves I can wear ain't any they are not warm like mittens we buy extra gloves at the exchange sometimes

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



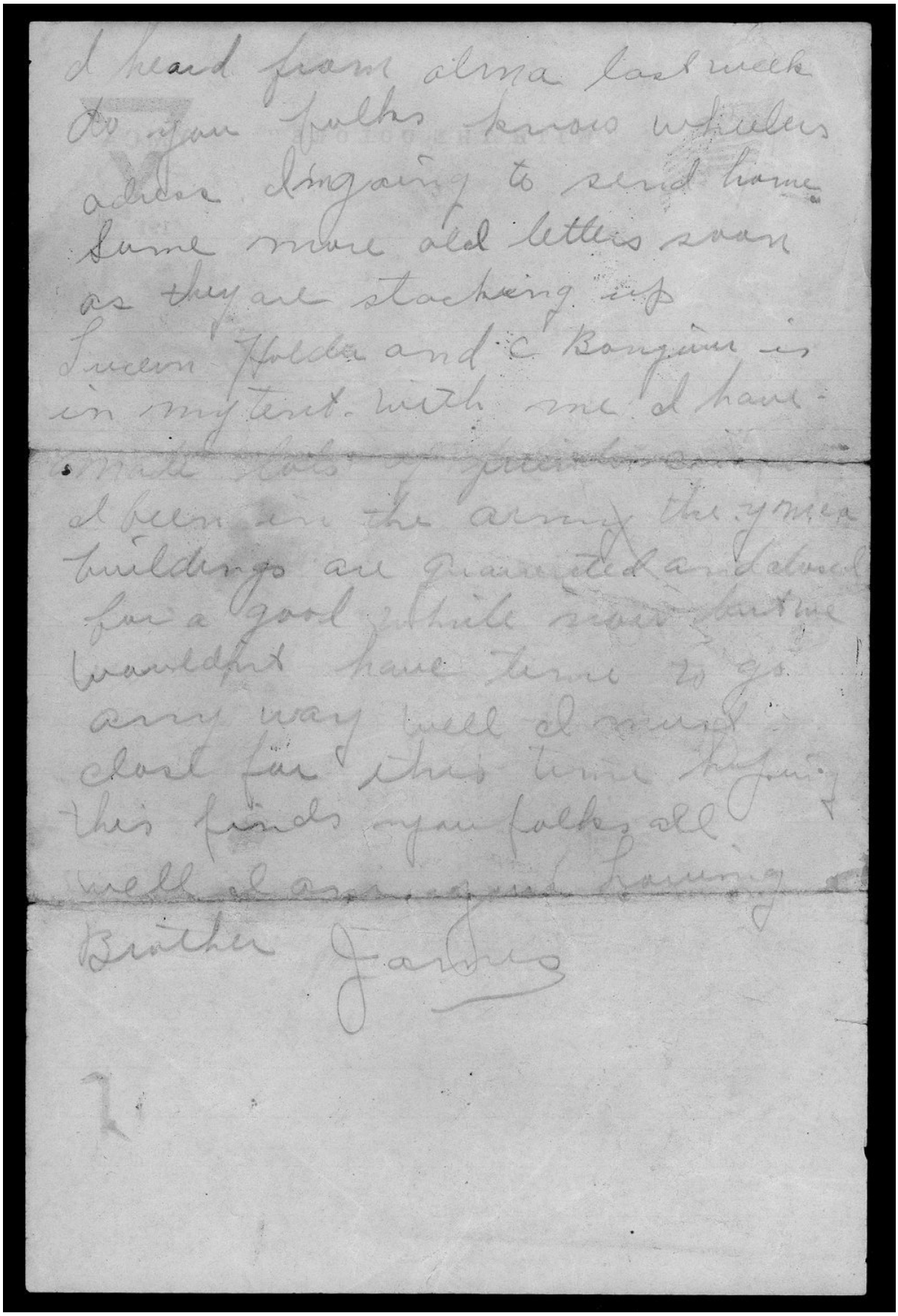
"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

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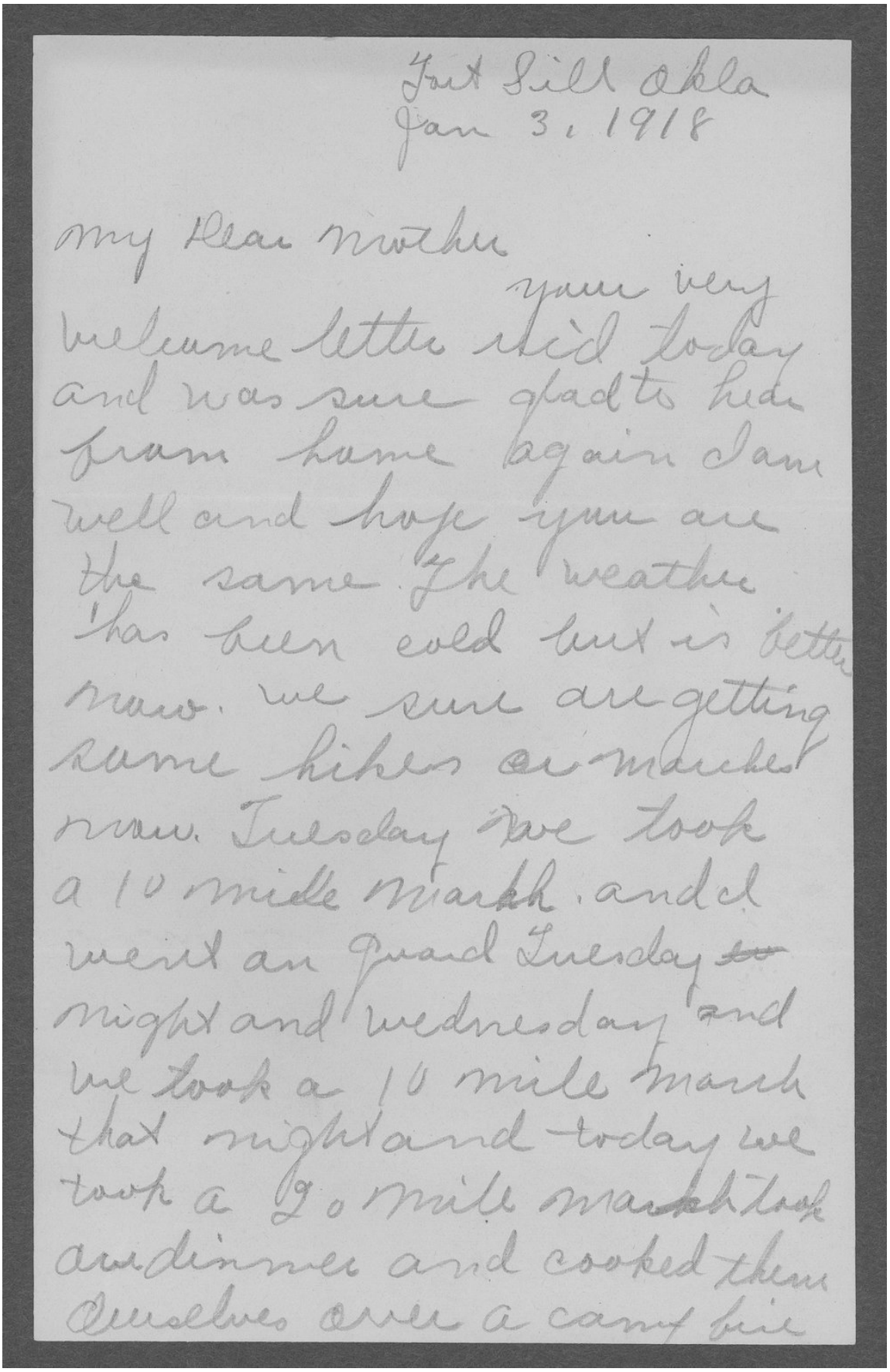
when they have them we can't go to town + let alone come home for we don't know when Sunday comes but I read my little Testament every night and try to do right Some say well I have I don't but you never can tell when no one knows until we are packing up & now have a rifle and we have done some shooting I done real well as dark is and with a rifle. we have some of the most death dealing war machinery you ever heard of if you send a telegram send it direct to me I have company writing to do it sure keeps one busy

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



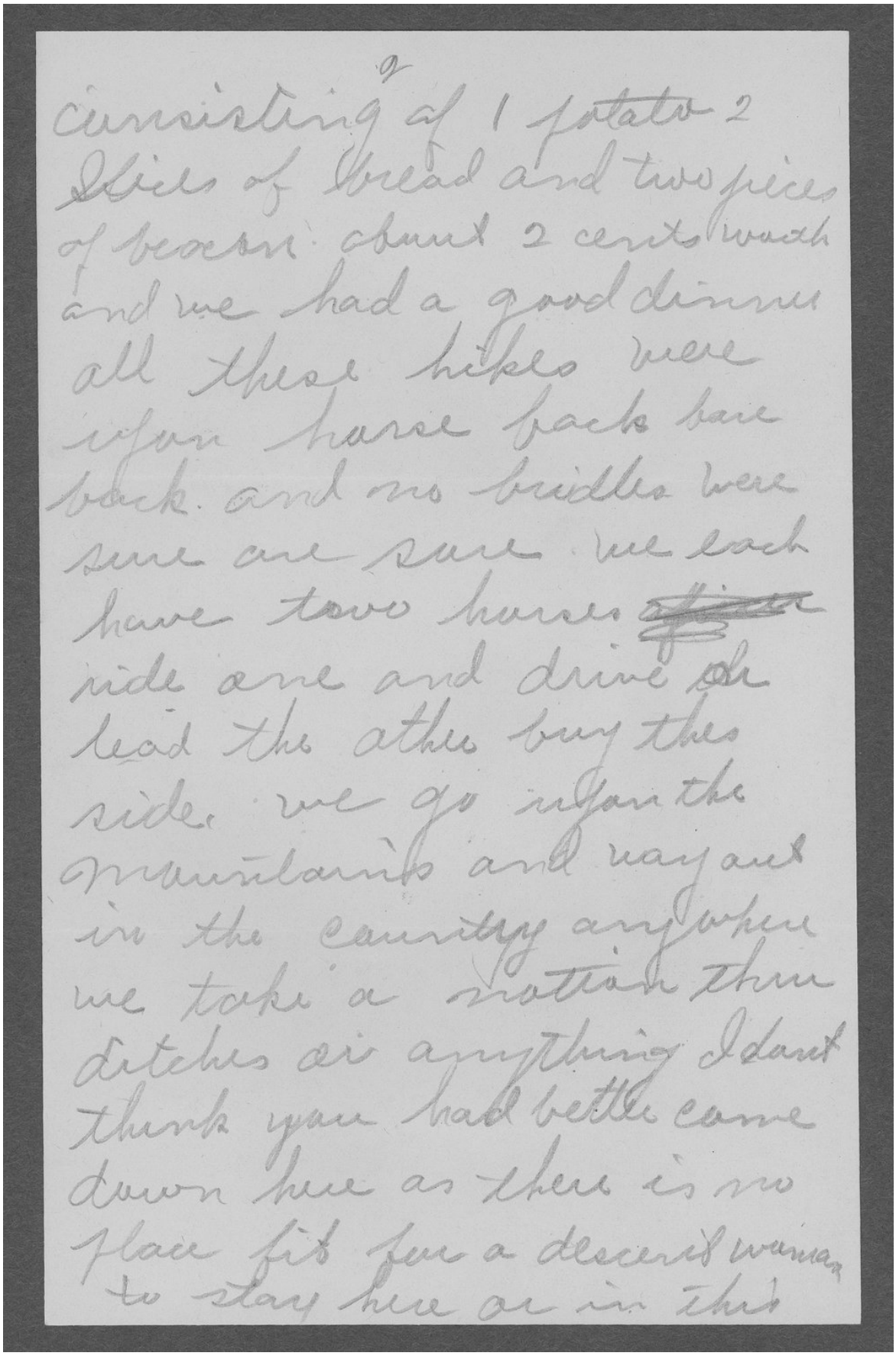
d heard from alma last week
do you folks know where
addie dingaing to send home
some more old letters soon
as they are stacking up
Lucien Hilda and C Bangum is
in my tent with me d have
made 7 cats by septimber and
d been in the army the y m c a
buildings are guarded and closed
for a good while now but we
wouldn't have time to go
any way well d round
close for this time hoping
this finds you folks all
well as me leaves having
Brother James

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



Fort Sill Okla
Jan 3, 1918

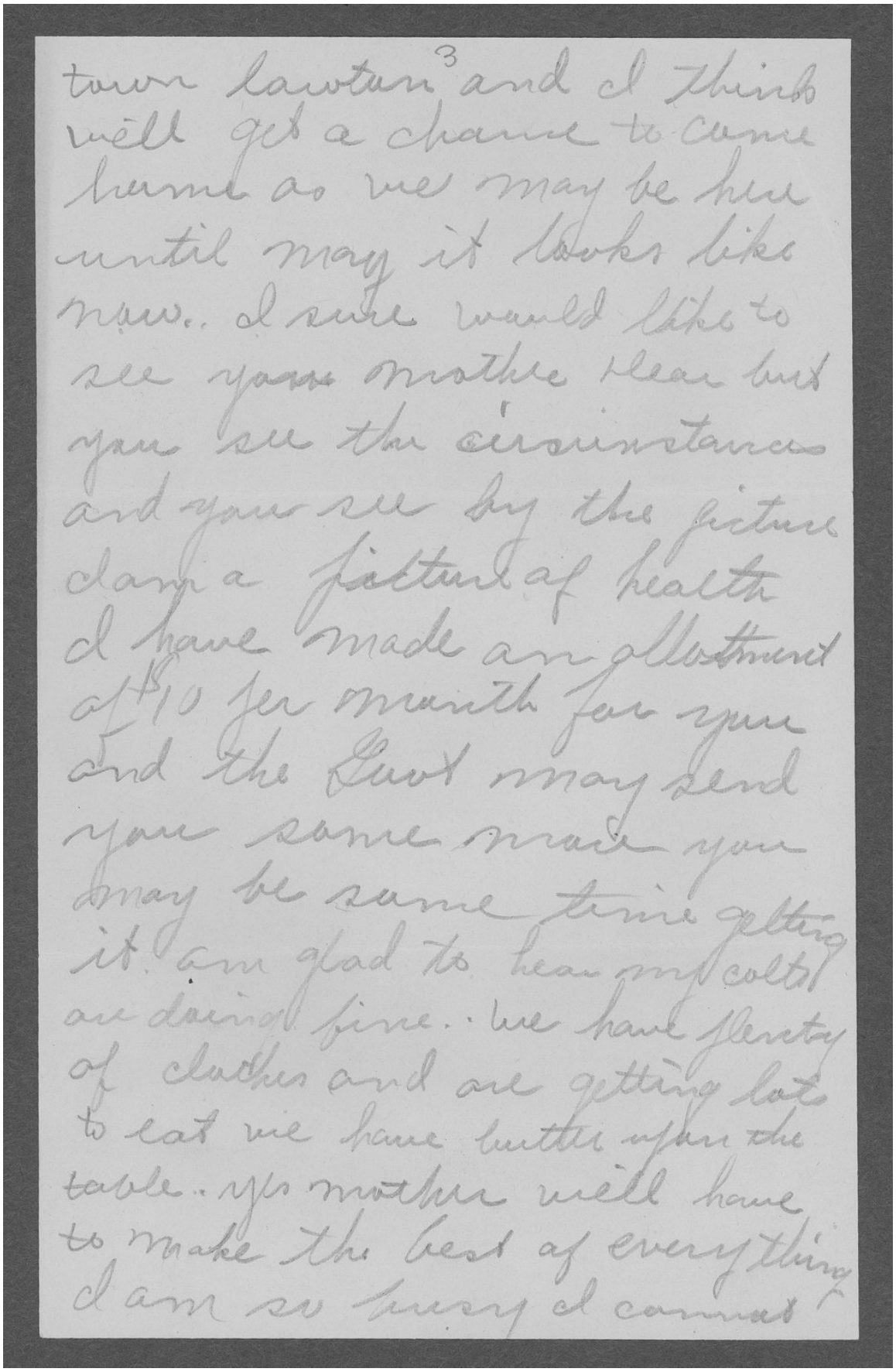
My dear mother
your very welcome letter rec'd today and was sure glad to hear from home again I am well and hope you are the same. The weather has been cold but is better now. We sure are getting some hikes or marches now. Tuesday we took a 10 mile march and went on guard Tuesday ~~so~~ night and Wednesday and we took a 10 mile march that night and today we took a 20 mile march took our dinner and cooked them ourselves over a camp fire



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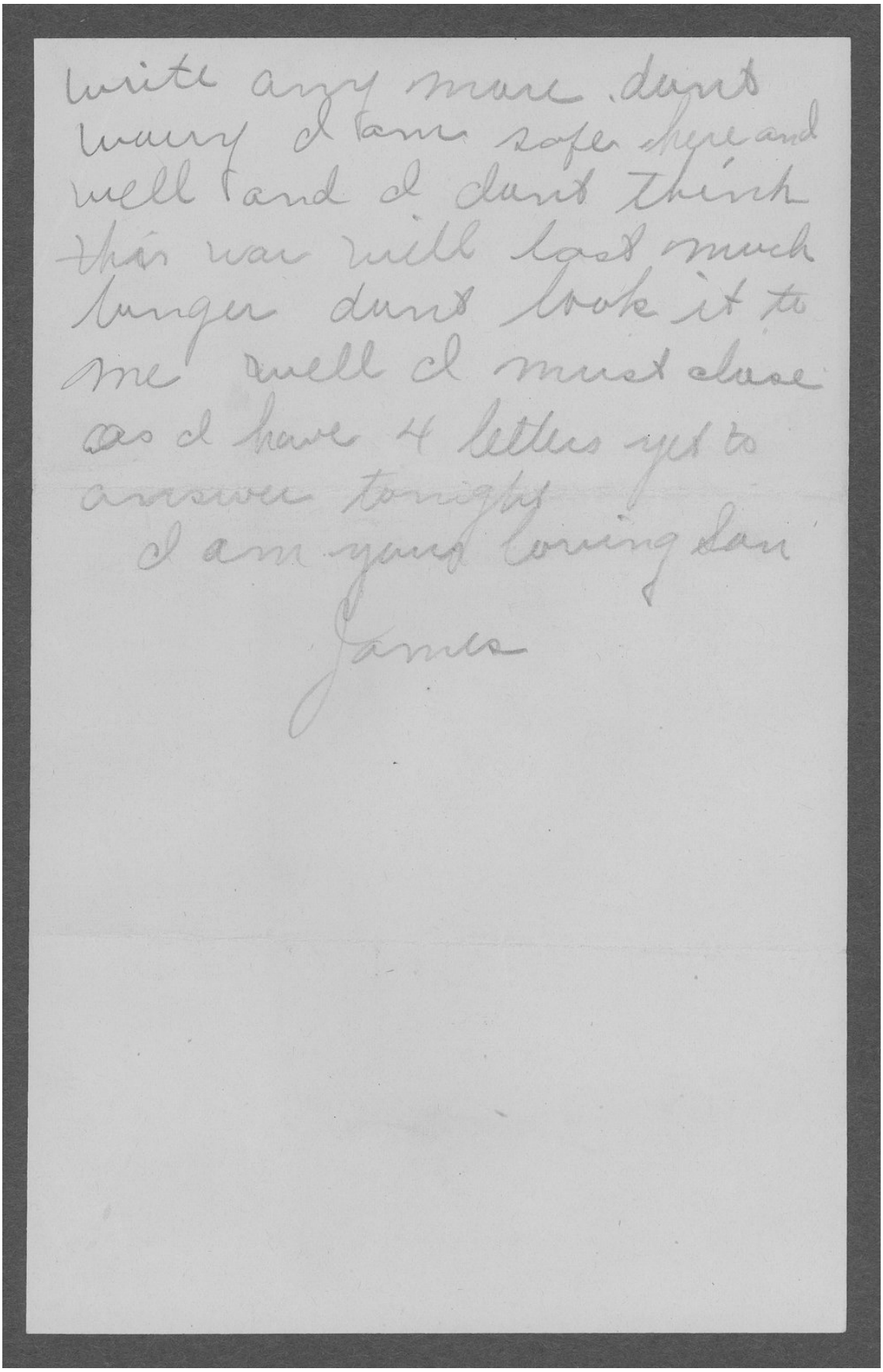
consisting of 1 potato 2
slices of bread and two pieces
of bacon about 2 cents worth
and we had a good dinner
all these hikes were
upon horse back bare
back and no bridles were
seen are ever. we each
have two horses ~~to~~
ride one and drive the
lead the other by the
side. we go upon the
mountains and way out
in the country anywhere
we take a notion there
ditches or anything I dont
think you had better come
down here as there is no
place fit for a decent woman
to stay here or in this

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



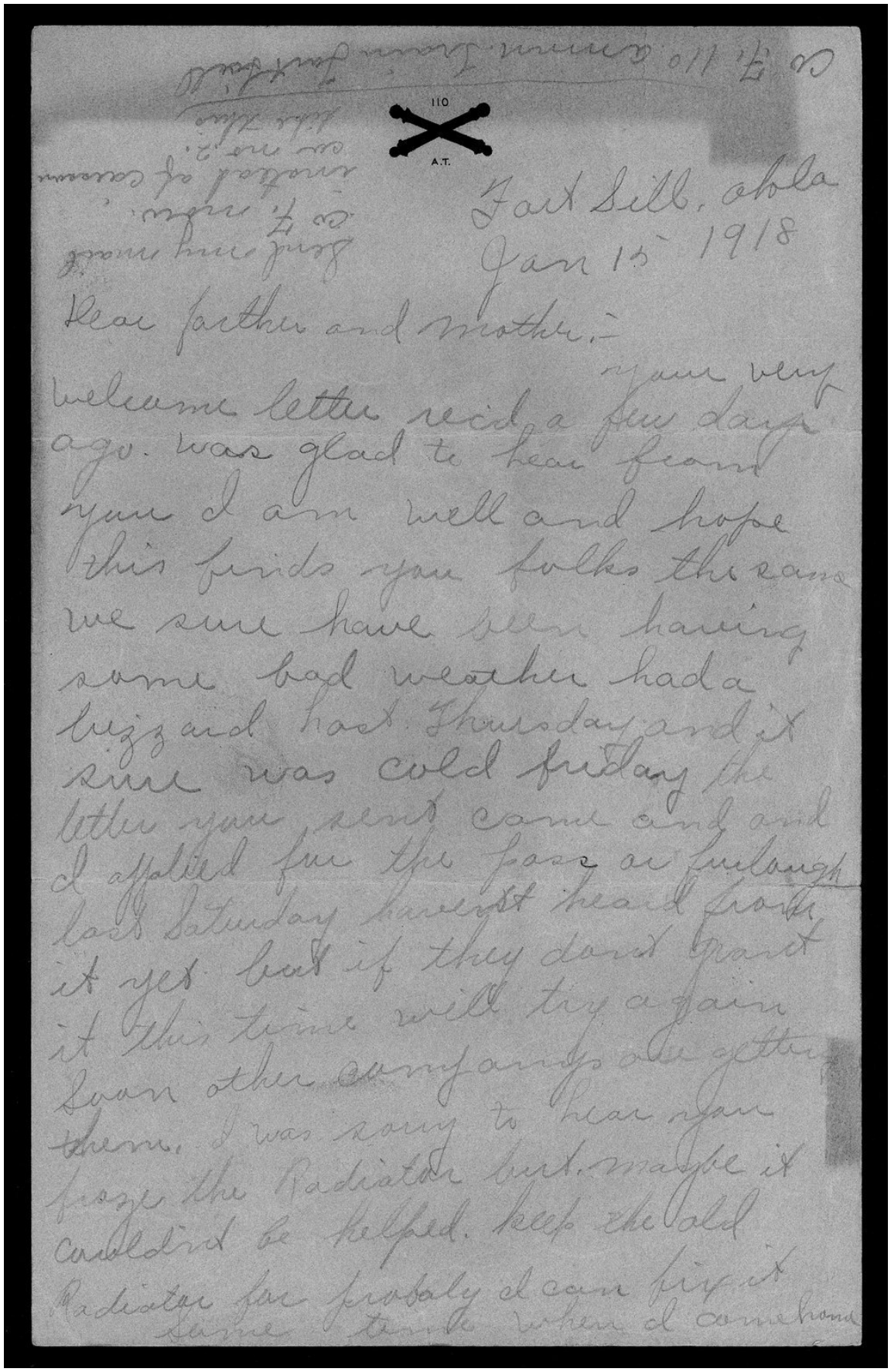
town lawton 3 and I think will get a chance to come home as we may be here until may it looks like now.. I sure would like to see your mother dear but you see the circumstances and you see by the picture dare a picture of health I have made an allotment of $10 per month for you and the Govt may send your name mark you may be same time getting it. am glad to hear my colts are doing fine.. we have plenty of clothes and are getting late to eat we have butter upon the table.. yes mother will have to make the best of everything I am so sorry I cannot

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



write any more. dont
worry d am safe here and
well and d dont think
this war will last much
longer dont look it to
me well d must close
as d have 4 letters yet to
answer tonight
d am yours loving son
James

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

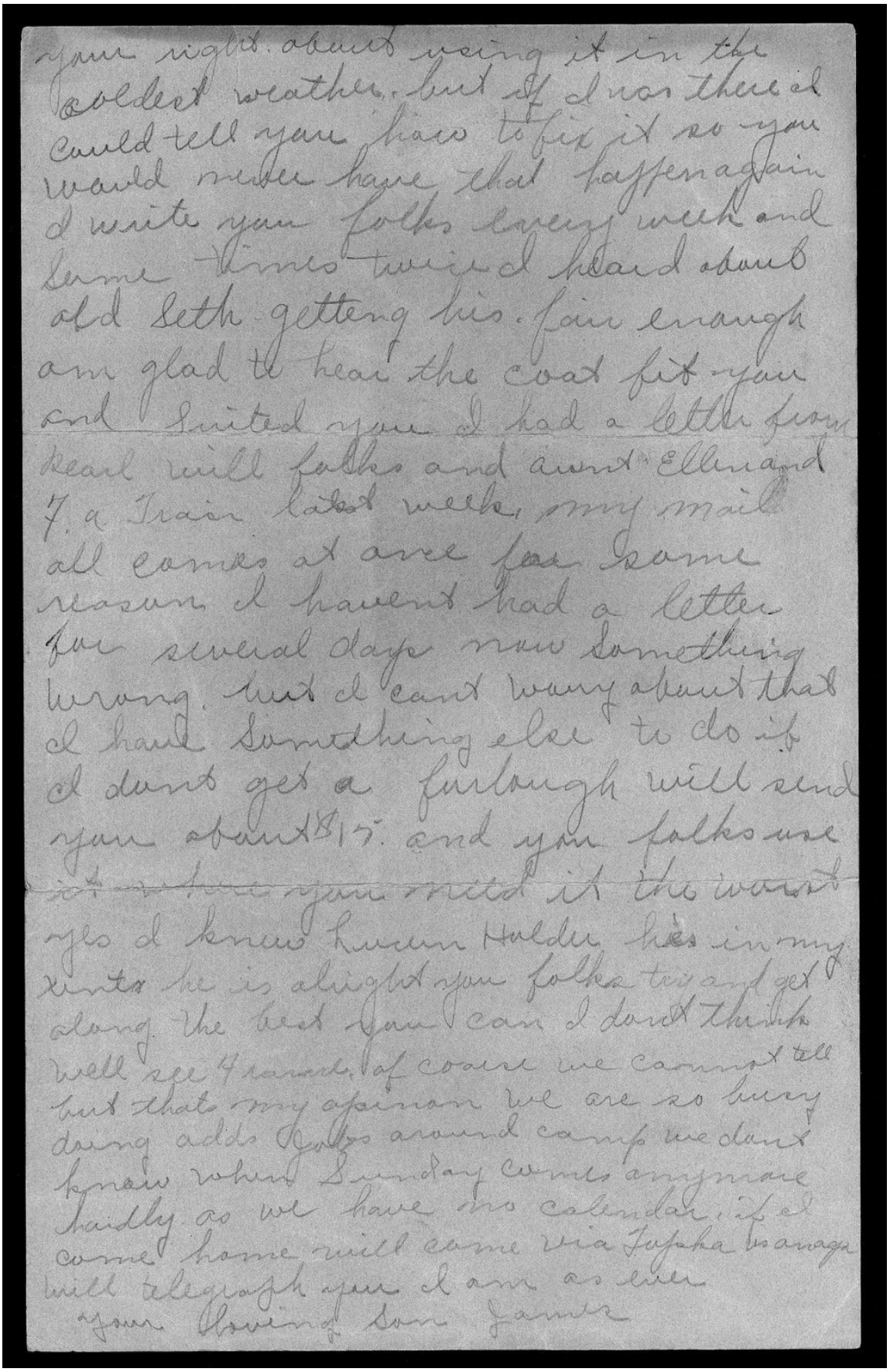


110
A.T.

Fort Sill, Okla
Jan 15 1918

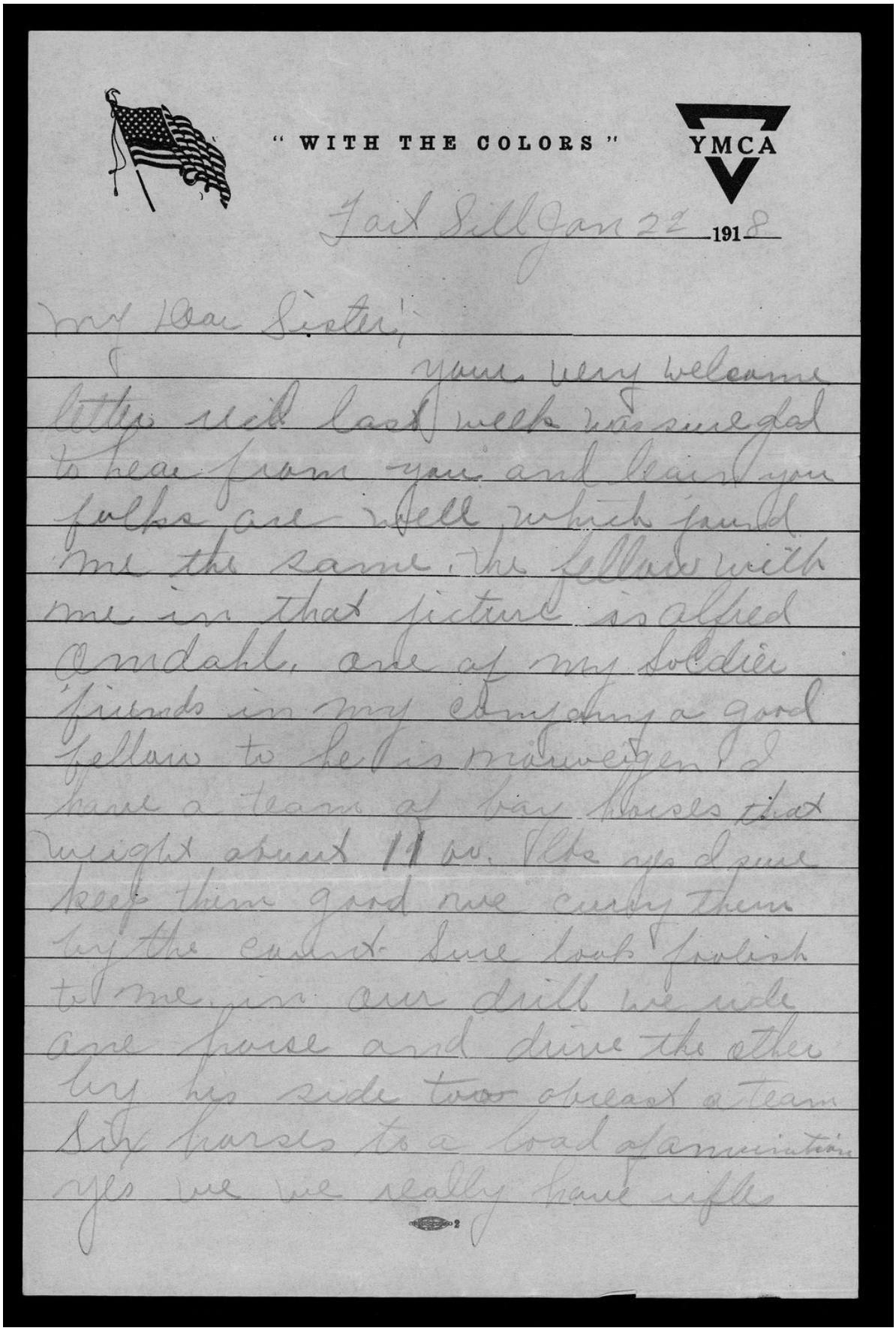
Dear father and mother.-

Your very welcome letter reach a few days ago. was glad to hear from you & am well and hope this finds you folks the same we sure have been having some bad weather had a bizzard last Thursday and it sure was cold Friday the letter you sent came and and I applied for the pass or furlough last Saturday but not heard from it yet but if they dont grant it this time will try again Some other company's are getting them. I was sorry to hear your froze the Radiator but maybe it couldnt be helped. keep the old Radiator for probaly I can fix it some time when I come home



your right about using it in the coldest weather, but if I was there I could tell you how to fix it so you would never have that happen again. I write you folks every week and some times twice I heard about old Seth getting his. Fair enough am glad to hear the coat fit you and suited you. I had a letter from Pearl Mill folks and Aunt Ellen and J. a Train latest week, my mail all comes at once for some reason I haven't had a letter for several days now Something wrong, but I can't worry about that I have Something else to do if I don't get a furlough will send you about $17. and you folks use it where you need it the worst yes I know Lucian Holder he's in my tents he is alright you folks try and get along the best you can I don't think we'll see 4 years of course we cannot tell but that's my opinion we are so busy doing odds jobs around camp we don't know when Sunday comes anymore hardly as we have no calendar, if I come home will come via Topeka Kansas will telegraph you I am as ever
your loving Son James

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



" WITH THE COLORS "

YMCA

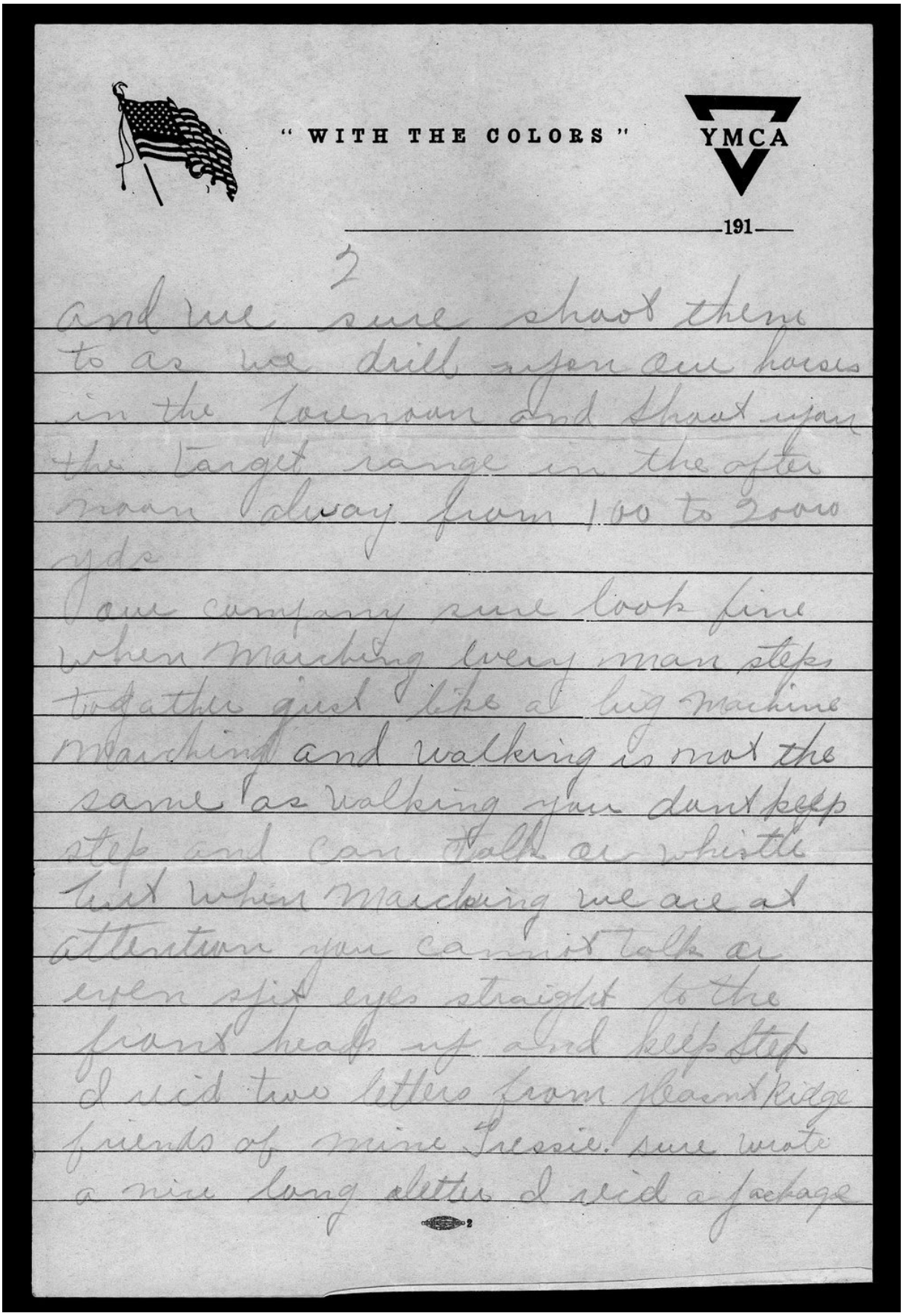
Fort Sill Jan 22 1918

My Dear Sister,

Your very welcome letter rec'd last week was sure glad to hear from you and hear you folks are well which found me the same. The fellow with me in that picture is Alfred Arndahl, one of my soldier friends in my Co. Is a good fellow to be in mine. I'd have a team of bay horses that weight about 1100 lbs. If he gets I sure keep them good we curry them by the end of June look foolish to me. In our drill we ride one horse and drive the other by his side two abreast a team six horses to a load of ammunition yes we we really have rifles

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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

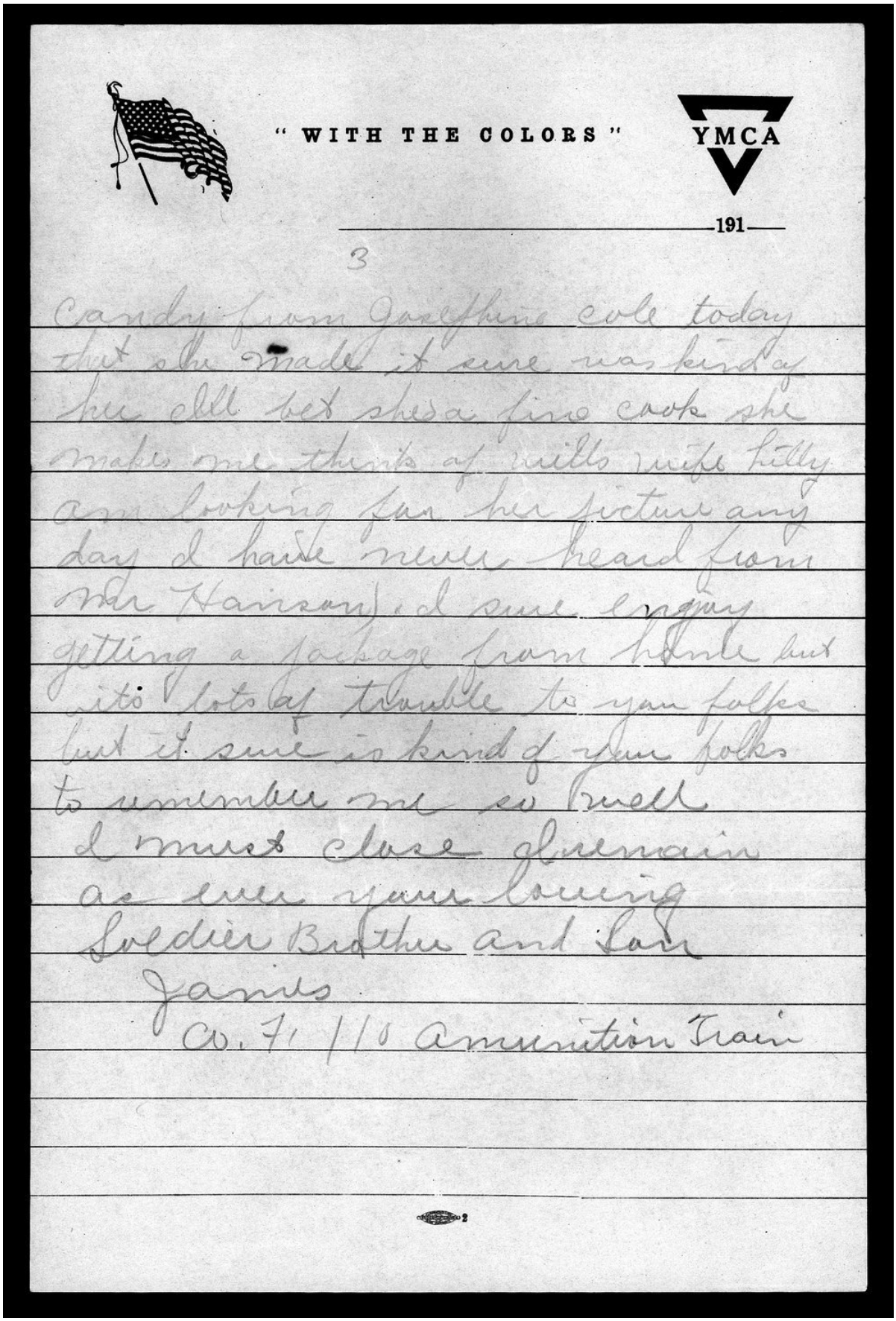

" WITH THE COLORS "
YMCA
191

2

and we sure shoot them to as we drill upon our horses in the forenoon and shoot upon the target range in the afternoon always from 100 to 2000 yds

Our company sure look fine when marching every man steps together just like a big machine Marching and walking is not the same as walking you dont keep step and can talk or whistle but when marching we are at attention you cannot talk or even stir eyes straight to the front heads up and keep step I recd two letters from pleasant Ridge friends of mine Jessie sure wrote a nice long letter I recd a package

2



" WITH THE COLORS "

YMCA

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3

Candy from Josephine cole today that she made it sure was kinda hot all but she's a fine cook she makes me think of willo wife silly am looking for her picture any day I have never heard from Mr Hairson I'd sure enjoy getting a package from home but it's lots of trouble to you folks but it sure is kind of you folks to remember me so much I must close remain as ever your loving Soldier Brother and Son James

Co. F. 110 Ammunition Train

2

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL

ARMY AND NAVY
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

"WITH THE COLORS"

Fort Sill Jan 23 1918

Dear folks!

Recd your very welcome letter from Hoyeand mother today was sure glad to hear from you folks and learn you are well which found me the same I haven't been sick a day since I been in the Army in regard to why you didn't hear from me I'd write you every week, and most of the time twice a week but lately we been so busy I didn't have time but I have wrote you every week and from now on I'd will write every day now mother don't judge me to hard I write you folks twice to what I write anyone else your folks are much nearer and dearer than

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL

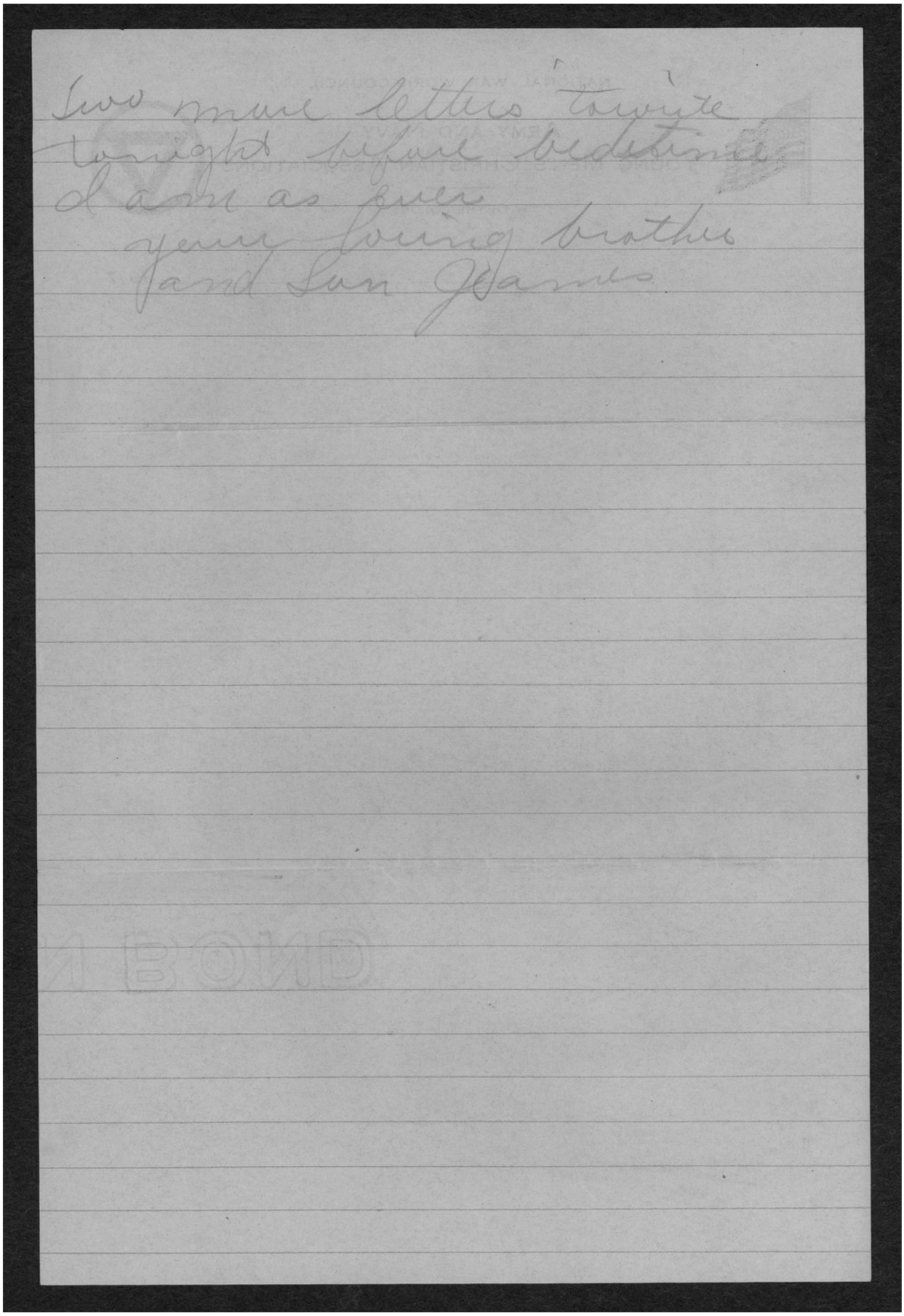
ARMY AND NAVY
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

"WITH THE COLORS"

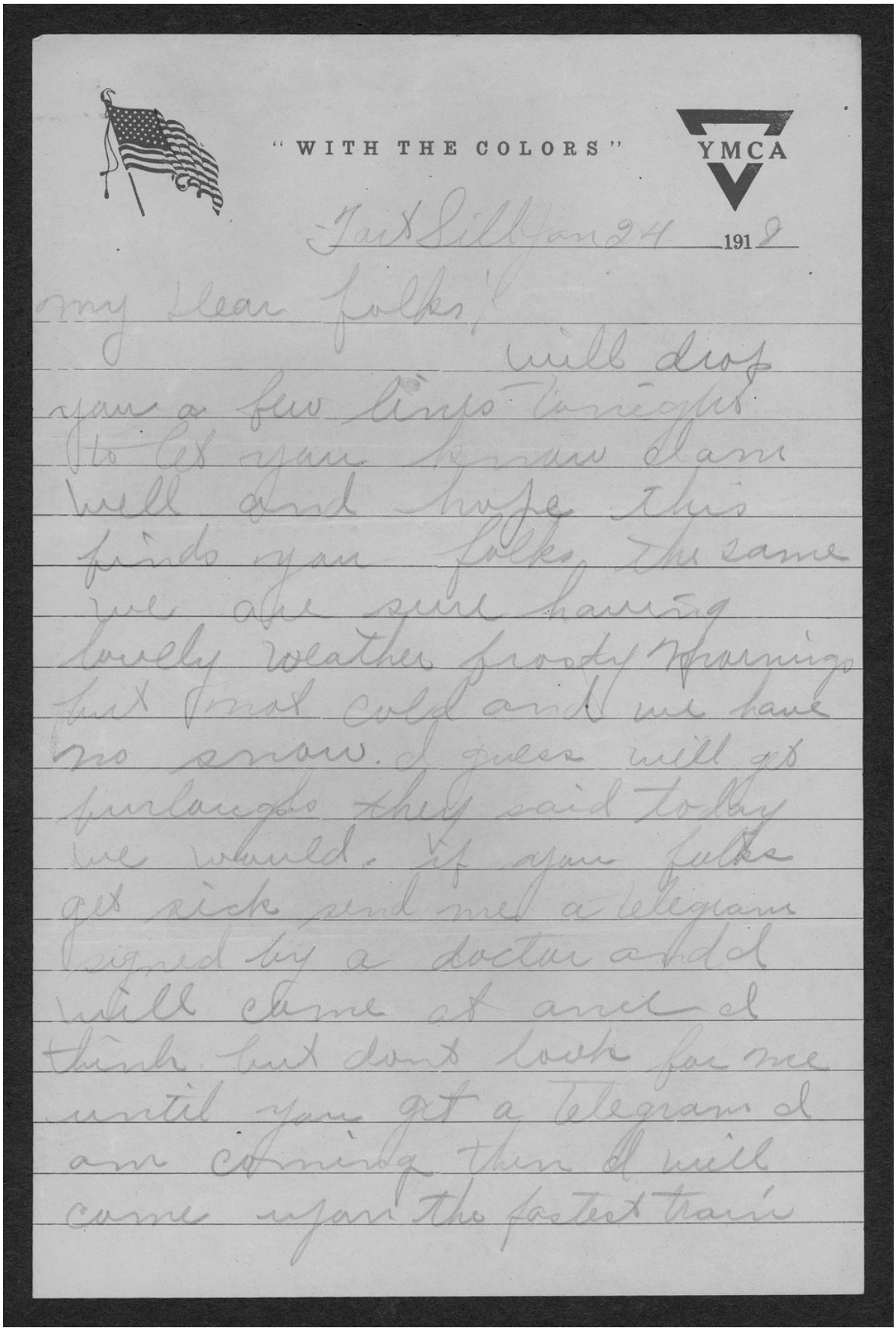
_____ 1917

to me than anyone on
earth. in regard to those pictures
I will have to have some
more taken I have sent all
them could and 2 day had cards
and stil I have several yet
who I must send them to besides
my soldier friends who want them
I think I will get to come
home after while we cannot
leave now as we are shooting
upon the rifle range every
day and we must be here
because we must make a
record, and cannot go any
where until we do. I had a
nice long letter from Aunt Ruby
today I have never heard from
Cleo. yes I see Ford Runnels
and Burgess quite often well I
must close as I will write
again tomorrow and I have

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



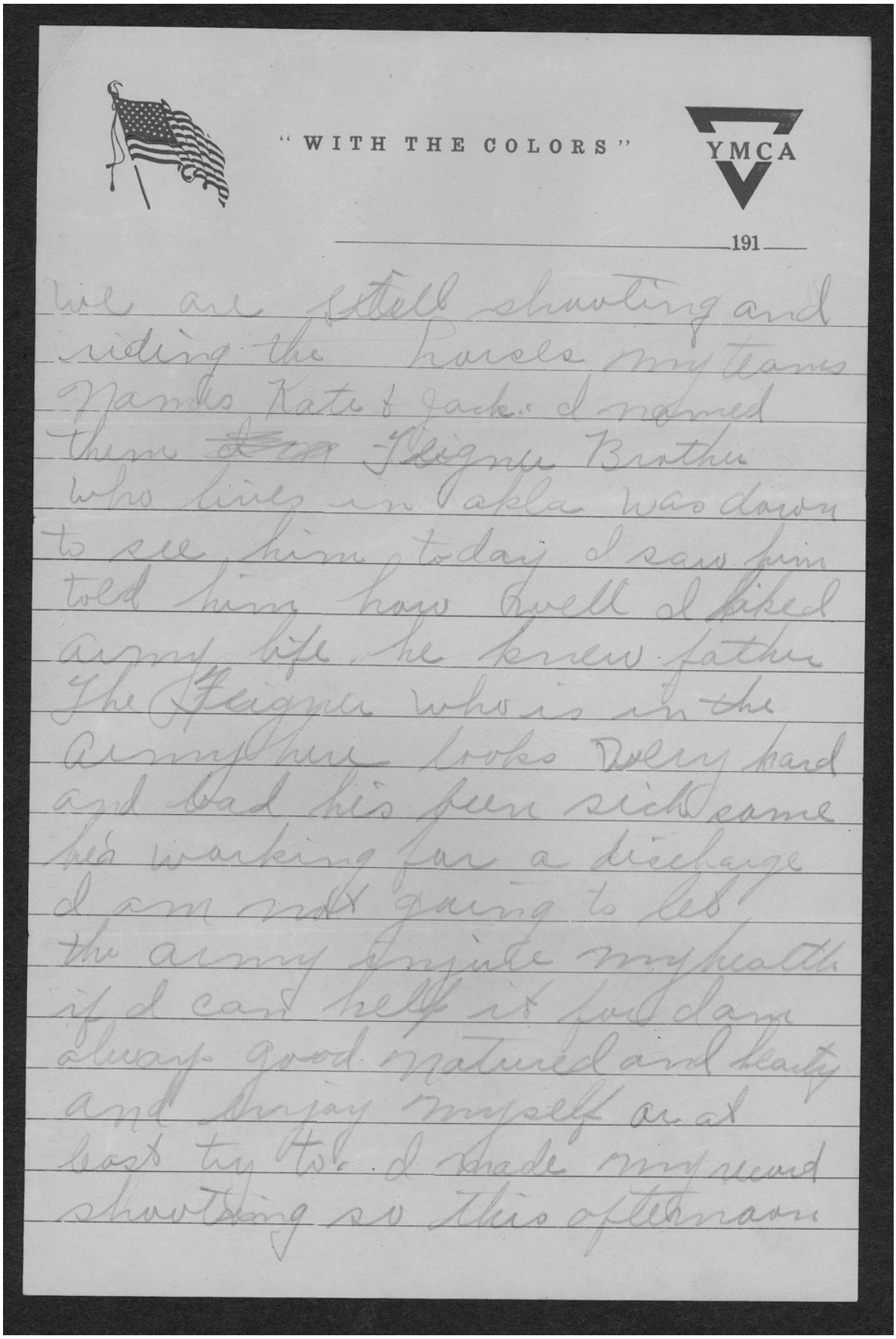
"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

Camp Sill Jan 24 1918

My Dear folks!

Will drop you a few lines tonight to let you know I am well and hope this finds you folks the same we are sure having lovely weather frosty mornings but not cold and we have no snow. I guess will get furlaughs they said today we would. If you folks get sick send me a telegram signed by a doctor and I will come at once I think but don't look for me until you get a telegram I am coming then I will come on the fastest train

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

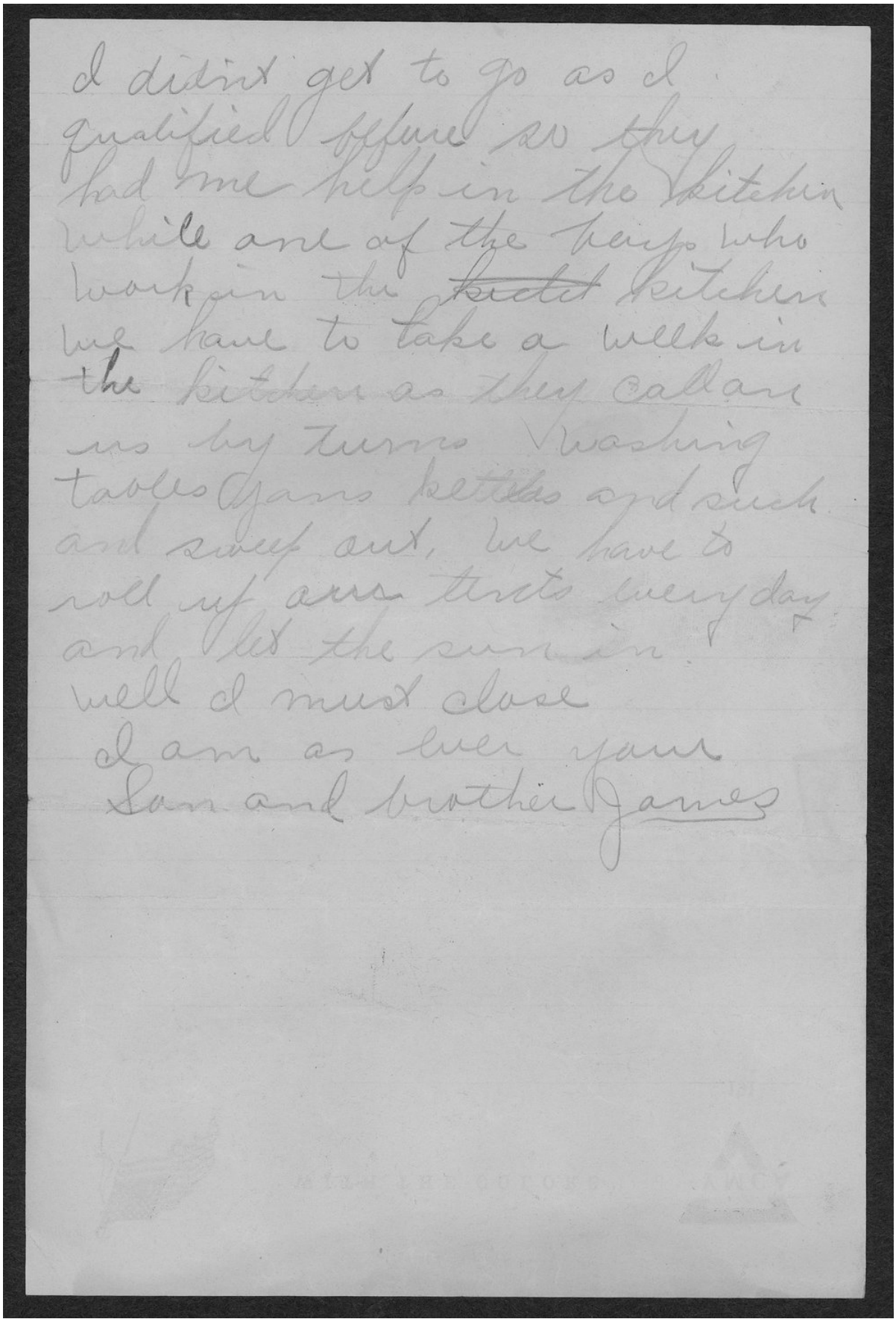


"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

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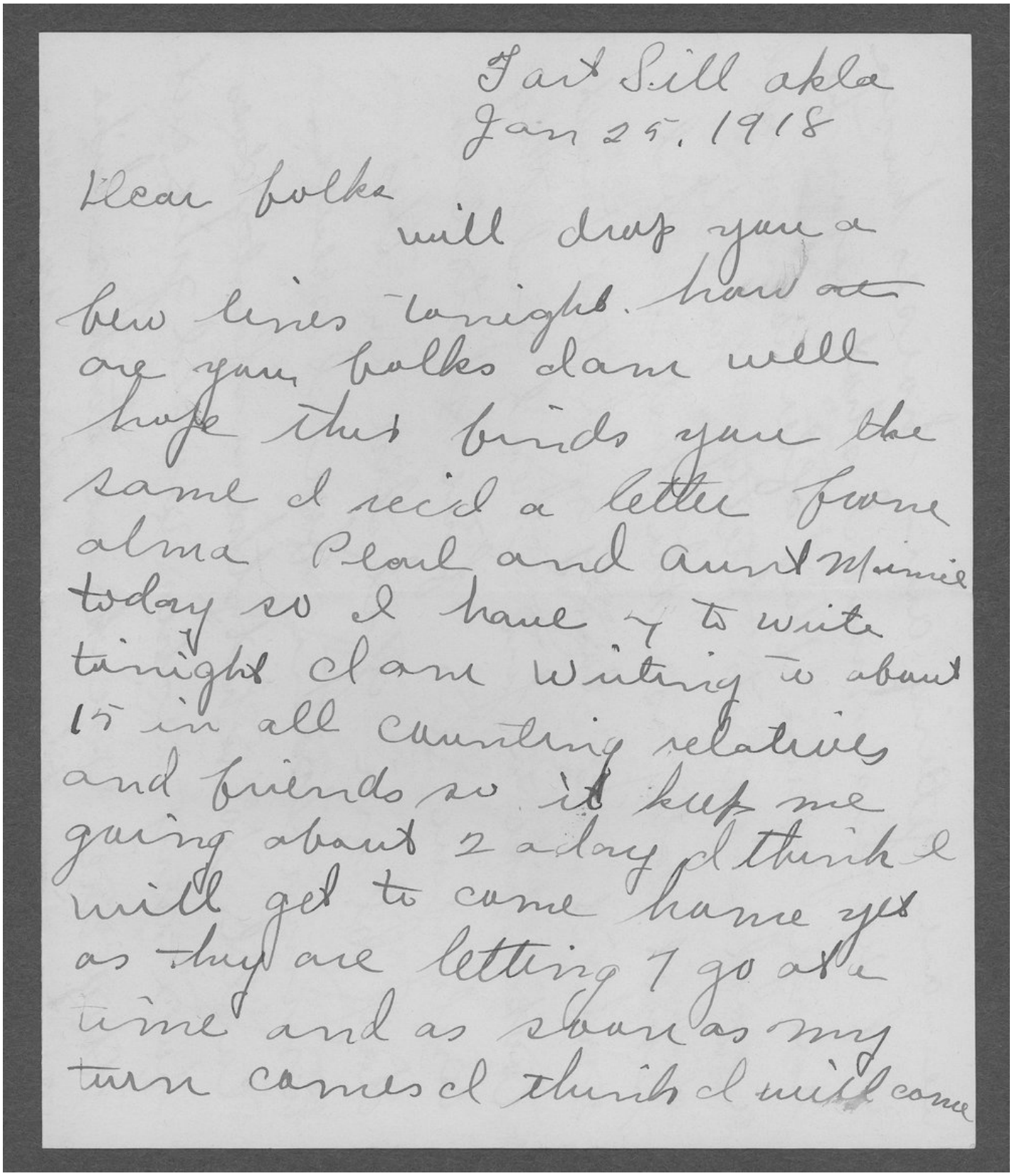
We are still shoveling and riding the horses my teams names Kate & Jack. I named them ~~Dan~~ Feigner Brothers who lives in Pakla was down to see him today I saw him told him how well I liked army life. he knew father The Feigner who is in the army there looks pretty hard and bad his pen sick came he's working for a discharge I am not going to let the army injure my health if I can't help it for I am always good natured and hearty and enjoy myself as at best try to. I shade my head shoveling so this afternoon

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



d didint get to go as d
qualified offune so they
had me help in the kitchen
while one of the boys who
work in the ~~kictit~~ kitchen
we have to take a walk in
the kitchen as they call one
us by turns washing
tables pans kettles and such
and sweep out, we have to
roll up our sacks every day
and let the sun in
well d must close
d am as ever your
Son and brother James

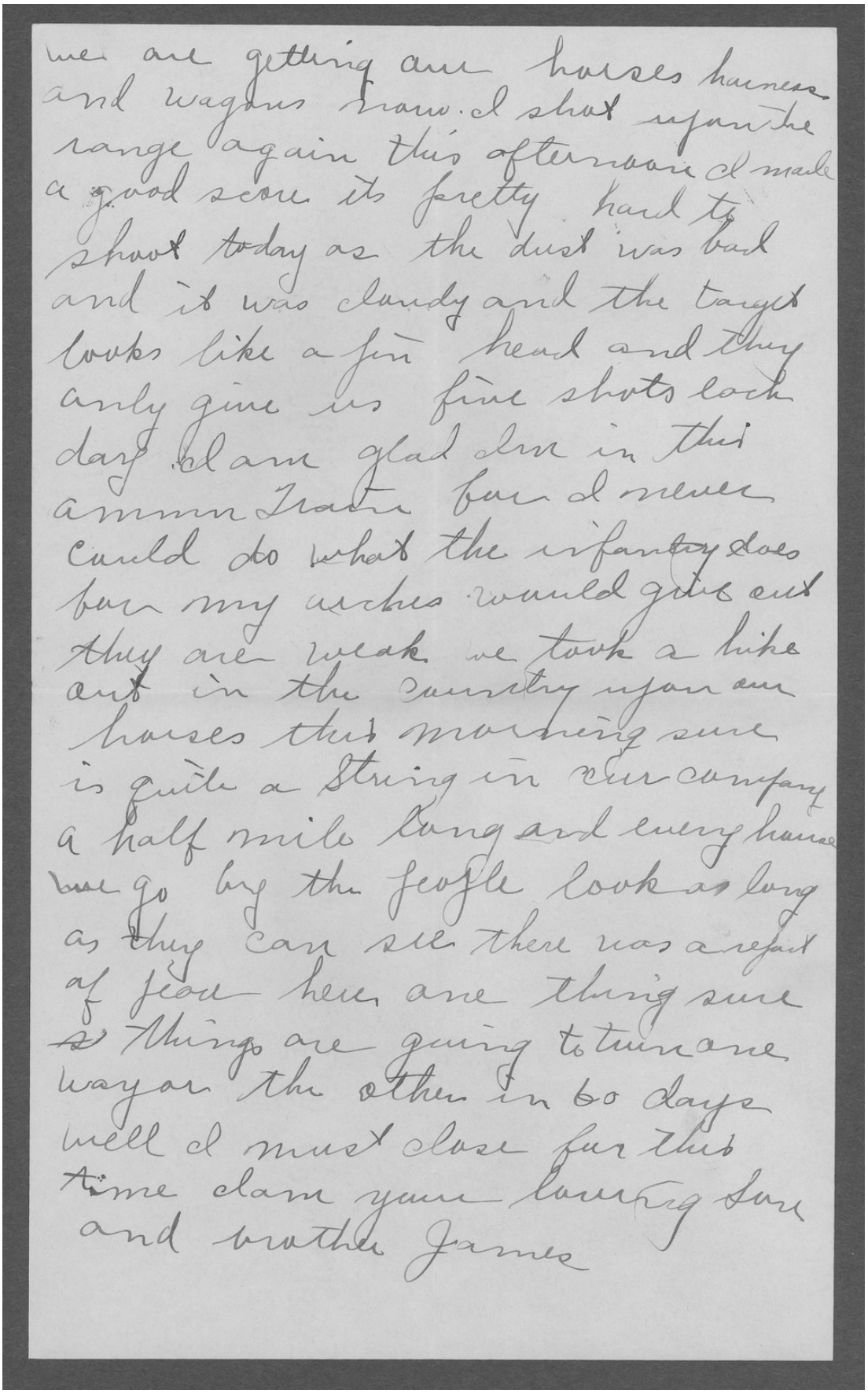
James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



Fort Sill Okla
Jan 25. 1918

Dear folks will drop you a few lines tonight. how are you folks dam well hope this finds you the same I recd a letter from alma Pearl and aunt Minnie today so I have 4 to write tonight I am writing to about 15 in all counting relatives and friends so it keep me going about 2 a day I think I will get to come home yet as they are letting 7 go at a time and as soon as my turn comes I think I will come

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



we are getting our horses harness and wagons now. I shot upon the range again this afternoon I made a good score its pretty hard to shoot today as the dust was bad and it was cloudy and the target looks like a fine head and they only give us five shots each day I am glad I am in this army I sure but I never could do what the infantry does but my arches would give out they are weak we took a hike out in the country upon our horses this morning sure is quite a string in our company a half mile long and every house we go by the people look as long as they can see there was a regt of us here are thing sure things are going to turn our way or the other in 60 days well I must close for this time I am your loving son and brother James