

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

### Section 2, Pages 31 - 60

Here are letters written by William (Bill) Lloyd Lamb to his family while he served in the Korean War. Lamb, a member of the United State Army, Company G, 180 Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division, was a recipient of the Silver Star and Purple Heart. A newspaper article published in The Blue Rapids Times, September 18, 1952, provides details of the heroic act, which resulted in Lamb receiving the Silver Star and Purple Heart. Additional Korean War letters written by William Lloyd Lamb are available to read, see Kansas Memory item 306850.

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## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Packed up this afternoon, ready to ship out this  
with some time. Started to snow again today. Going  
to try to get at the P. and get a new pen. Why don't you  
send me a chapeau.

Merry Christmas

Bill

~~Nov. 29~~  
This one was Postmarked  
Nov. 29

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

~~Dear Folks,~~  
Dear Folks;

If I get this mailed it will probably be the last one you will get for a week or 2 maybe more. I don't know if I should say or not but we are on ship came on yesterday afternoon if somebody is going ashore I'll give it to them and let them mail it.

We had a shendig Sunday night, we didn't get passes, but the American Legion invited 30 men and 30 gals from the University of Washington and had a party at their club had coffee, cokes and jell had a good time but they had to go back at 10:20 so it was short laded.

The ship is fairly clean and painted ~~and~~ don't have to much room but it is better than I expected.

Have't much more news to write so will close  
Received 2 letter aboard ship

Bill,

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Mother & Dad.  
Made it, arrived in Japan at 6:00 this Monday morning 19.  
Started to process as soon as we arrived at Camp Deane.  
He got off the ship around 9:00 and got on a Japanese train, it was  
clean but small. The open box cars, coal cars etc are about the  
size of the flat corn picking wagons we have at home. The people  
are very small, houses, buildings so on, too. The country I have seen  
so far is laid out really, except the roads they are a mess.  
The men dress western but the women don't seem too dress  
western to much. But the ones that do, come up to standard.  
Received 10 letters from you on the train when we left the pier  
1 from Emily, 3 from Phyllis, 1 from Amy.  
Going to the PX so will close, so going to Korea in 2 or 3 days  
going down some here on it.

Bill

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Mother & Dad

Wednesday, I wish I hadn't of sent that last letter.  
they changed orders. We are going to the 45th Regt Co, 45 Inf Div  
APO, 86. Don't know exactly what they are doing but they  
are stationed up in northern Japan. Some say it is a  
national guard outfit, time will tell, they issued us the  
latest clothes for the coldest weather here during ahead, mailing  
Phyllis a letter now too,  
I haven't seen anything out side of Camp Drake yet, Jap pull  
KIP for us there is about 150 going to 45th,  
Won't finish now no time, send another letter

Dell

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Folks

Night before Thanksgiving, still here at Camp Drake, don't know when we will leave yet. Fri maybe. The letter I wrote this morning was cut short as you know.

Received your box of cigs, gum. You don't have to send any thing. Tell the rest of the folks to quit, till we get located. I don't have room or feel like carrying anymore junk, with a farrocks bag weighing 75-80 lbs, cigs, socks, rifle etc. Plenty of anything I need here.

Send something home from here when I get situated. Have plenty of PX with a complete supply of junk.

You could send the times over.

Guess go to church tomorrow at 7:15.

Thought I would write a long letter but can't think of anything else to say,

Goodnight

Bill

Cpl. William L Lamb <sup>U.S.</sup> 55117544  
45<sup>th</sup> Repl. Co., 45<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div.  
APO 86 90 Postmaster  
San Francisco Calif.

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Mother & Dad

Sunday morning, in Camp Crawford, Suworolo. I guess that is spelled right Japan. We arrived here last night about 1:00 and had coffee & cake. we are staying now at the gym. Had a talk by the Division commander and have a formation after while to see what unit we will be assigned too. Some say we will be sent to Korea to replace the 1st Cavalry unit. It is not too cold here grounds frozen & 3 or 4 inches of snow be 3 or 4 ft by spring I guess, probably won't be here to see it.

The camp is in between high hills so wind does not hit to severe.

Probably about Christmas when you get this letter but I don't imagine you will get any gifts from me, pay records I imagine will be a bit slow I am sending \$95.00 home each month by allotment and I will draw around \$36. or \$37.00 have not had pay I guess.

The bunch that left from Omaha are still together. If my new outfit stop in Japan send me some stamps they are ~~needed~~ needed in Japan yet.

I have a letter writer & some records and junk in an envelope ready to mail but I will wait till I get assigned before I send it. It tell about our Thanksgiving dinner.

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

I won't mail this till I get permanently assigned so  
you will have my new address. The reason we were  
sent to this N6 outfit is some volunteer for Korea and  
some are sent home for some reason or other. I don't  
remember if I said or not but send the times  
and don't send anything else unless I write for it.  
Can't think of anything else to say right now so  
will close

Got assignment to Bell  
H Co. Going to Korea next wk

address

Co. # 180th Inf Reg  
APO 86 70 PM  
San Francisco

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Mother & Dad.

How are you. This Thanksgiving day here, might be a few at home or days before I guess would be more accurate.

Sending home some orders, other junk that was in my billfold. Do something with them might come in handy some time.

Beautiful day here around 60 or 70. Turned in all fatigues so home to wear O.D.s. <sup>clear</sup>

Don't know if I said or not, but the 45th is in Japan, up north just across from Manchuria big Russian base, right across the sea.

Still don't know when we leave here yet. Somebody said we shouldn't use our new address but I guess it does not matter to much.

Sending home our menu from dinner today. Didn't only have enough to eat but it was delicious, seasoned well etc. Home made bread, good. Off at 9:30 till 4:15 then be off till 2300. Don't know when what I will do the rest of the afternoon, roam around I guess. Maybe write some letters to somebody, should anyway.

Have no news guess I will close and see if I can find some stamps to send it home with.

(This was Postmarked Dec. 7th the two same time was enclosed in same envelope as his other papers)

Bill  
all for free



## William Lloyd Lamb to family

These 2 he wrote on ship.  
were Postmarked - Seattle Dec. 3  
we got them Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>

*[Faint, mirrored handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper]*

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Mother & Dad

Going to write another letter. Drop one in the ship's mail box and I will mail this from land. Don't know which one you will get first, I'll probably land in Korea Wed 5th Dec. If this storm that is brewing doesn't get to severe, and delay us, Haven't any special news, but I have a big envelope of orders and what not that I will mail for free if it gets there. The boat is starting to rock tonight. probably be worse by morning.

Went to church have mass at 6:00 tomorrow, before we land, be issued ammo & c rations, will hike all day when we land, will be a bit tiring before I get use to it again have not done any marching since October I graduated be almost 2 months doesn't seem possible does it.

Don't get too much news but I guess they are still talking up the peace. The men in the 45th claim they will be state side in 3 months. Something to talk about anyway.

Guess I will close & go take a  
shower & shave.

Bill.

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Just a short note we are in Ancho harbor  
waiting to disembark. Forgot & sealed my  
letter last night or would have written in it  
Just had supper a bowl of soup & some crackers  
have Crations but don't feel like digging them  
out of my pack just now. Beautiful day here in the  
harbor, sun shining, no wind. Don't know we  
will bed down tonight. If we would have  
landed ~~to~~ this morning we would have walked  
all day but now don't know

I am writing on my last piece of paper  
have a PX list on it yet

If I find a mail box will mail this  
and a couple other letters.  
Wonder what we are going to find  
out in the hills

Bill

This was Dated Dec. 7  
at 11<sup>00</sup> that is (2300)



## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Folks

Saturday 8 Dec

Not suppose to write where we are or what we are doing, some place in Korea in assembly point get rest of our equipment + straighten around. I am in the 3rd squad as a sniper have a telescope sight etc. Living in squad tents, have a stove. Have hot chow. Try to write larger so you can read it. still have my blunt pencil. Not to cold around 25° or 30° above. Probably be colder up higher in the mountains. Am on guard today, few guerrillas around. Keep sending cigarettes maybe some cigarettes papers. get some tobacco once and a while. Get a ration of 1 pack of cigarettes + 3 candy bars. Got a haircut today "HA" buddy. Haven't had any mail since I left Camp Drake.

Don't know any news much  
I guess zeroed in our rifles on the  
range yesterday. Guess that is  
all. Did you get the money  
order.

Bill.

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Mother & Dad

Finally got some mail today 8 Dec the last letter was the 20 Nov first was the 13th one from <sup>my</sup> Bill & Julia. Got this morning but will drop you another <sup>rumor</sup> heard we are moving up on line tomorrow so prayers will be in line.

Tomorrow is Sunday. if the Chaplain gets to the Company & not on guard at that time will go.

Got one of your letters with you wondering how fast the ship went. About 18 knot - 25 miles an hr. Standard chow on ship but not cooked decent couldn't hardly eat it. We went Southwest & straight west so you better study your map better. Church read 9:00 tomorrow "just heard". Have to write to Bill & Julia now.

Been ending with Merry Christmas so maybe better write Happy New Year now you suppose

Keep sending paper & envelopes & tell everybody else too if they want an answer.

Bill

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Mother & Dad

How are you this morning. How is the weather not bad over here around 10 above this morning, raining last night around supper time but it cleared off sometime during the night. I guess the wind changed just about blew over anyway. Still living in squad tents have a stove.

If you can find me a 1952 calendar, one of billfold size send it over, today is Wed 13, Dec I reckon.

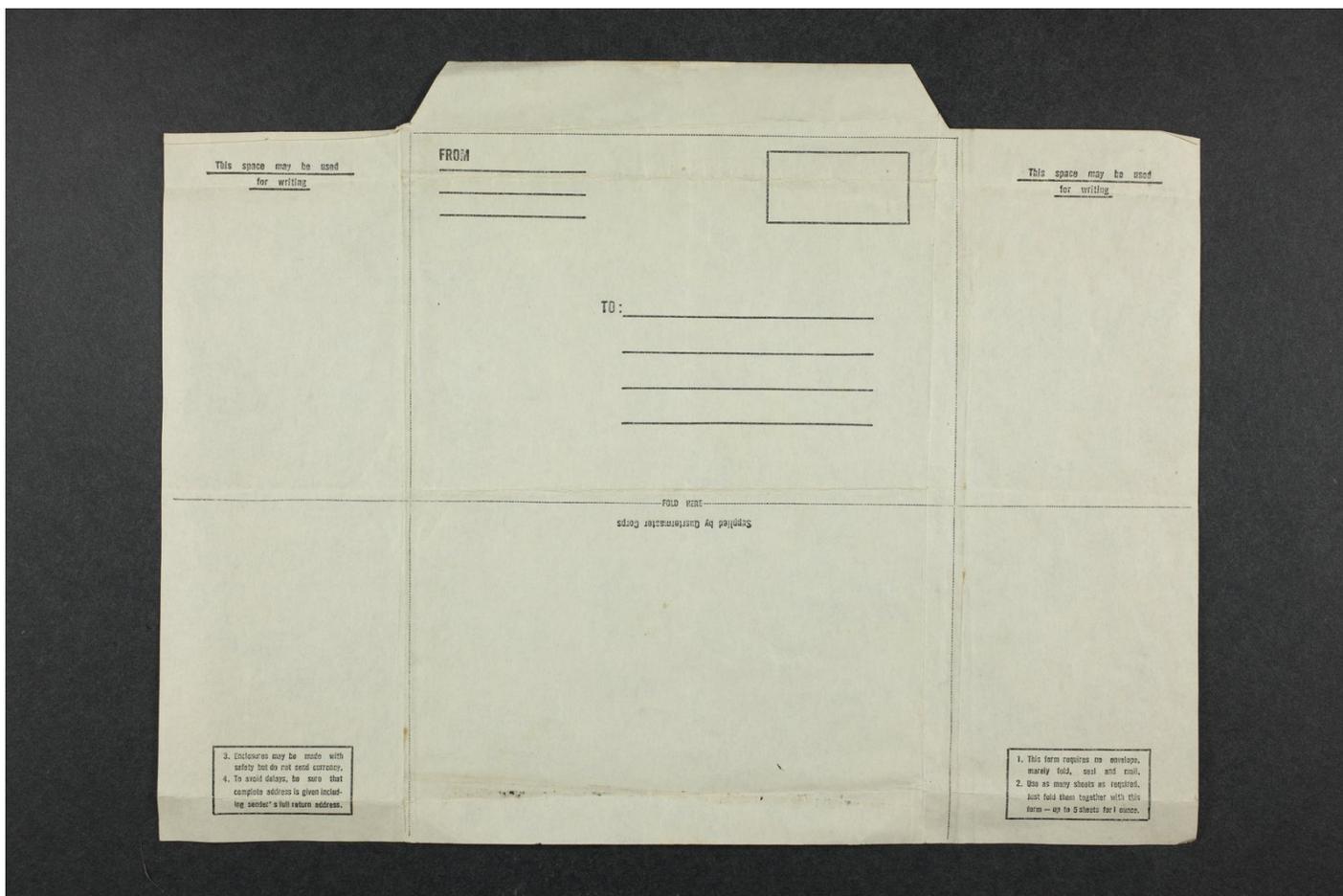
Not doing much. pulling a few details, cleaning weapons. The artillery is right across the road fur in about hr interval day & night.

Sleep pretty good sleeping bags are warm sleep with about half your clothes on. Shoe pads are warm, hope they do alright when it gets below Zero. Don't know if I told you or not but they have replaceable insoles change everyday they soak up sweat and wear two pairs of ski socks change every day too. Don't need over shoes. Just getting over a cold, hoped get over it before we move to the front.

Hope you are well & not working too hard  
Suppose you are doing Christmas shopping

Bill

## William Lloyd Lamb to family



## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Mother & Dad

Friday morning. Still clear & cold. Don't have any news so this letter will be short.

Had to stop for chow. Creamed chicken, dried potatoes, peas, pea soup, apple pie & coffee, peanut butter all mixed in the tray, managed to swipe an extra cup of coffee.

Still have 11 shopping days till Christmas. Never had a chance to get <sup>my</sup> Christmas presents. Haven't heard from you since Monday I guess. Been looking for a package but haven't caught up with me yet probably get one some day when I don't have time to enjoy it.

Order came down to shave every day in reserve every other day on line going to be rough this winter.

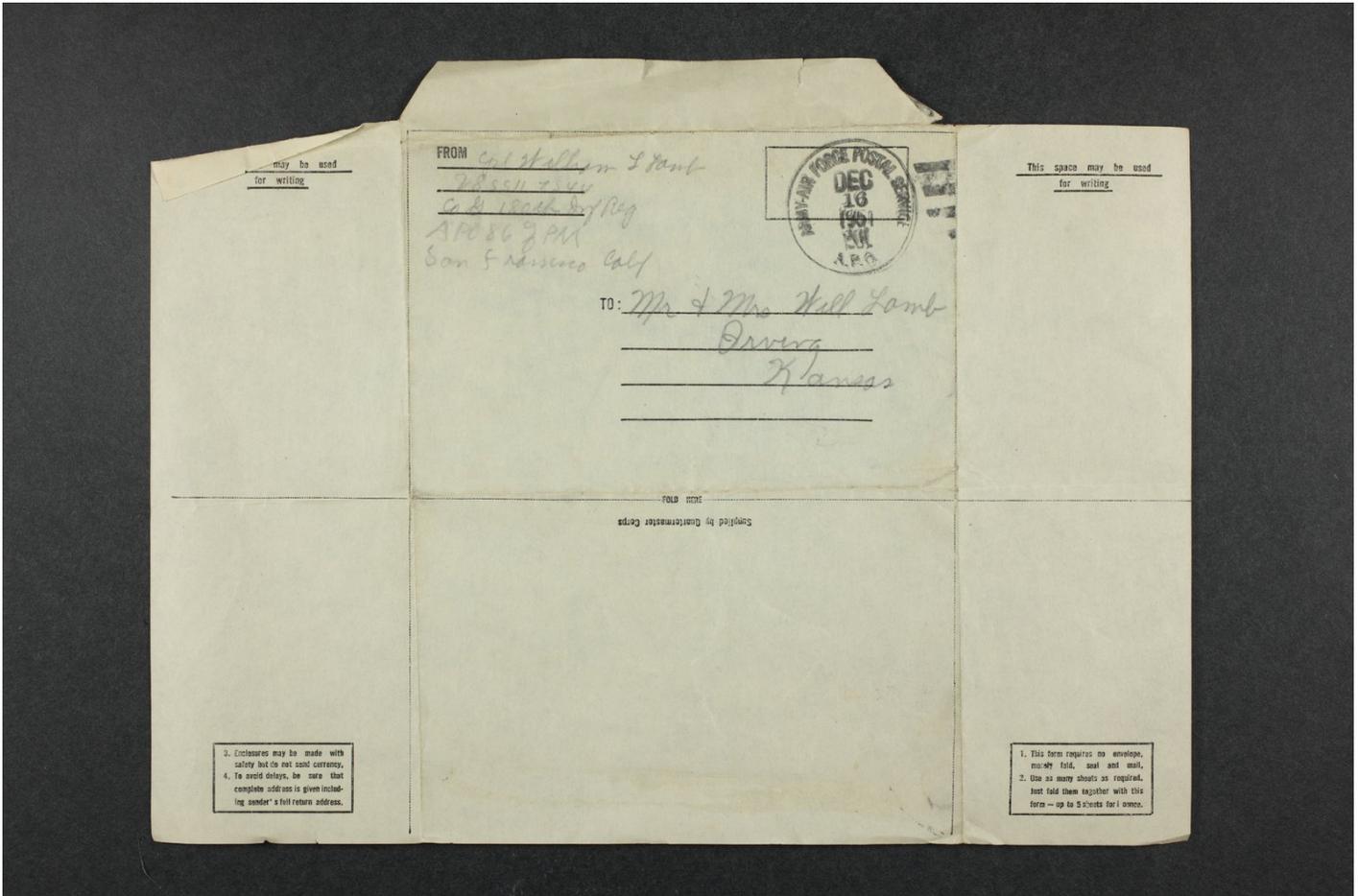
We can see our future positions from our location here. They are about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 miles further up in <sup>the</sup> mountains.

Hard to keep my directions straight going around mountains passes through winding valleys etc. Never thought would see such country.

Artillery is firing again, been quite for 24 hrs or so. Been a helicopter flying around all morning I guess General Staire is looking around

Bill

## William Lloyd Lamb to family



## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Pfc Arthur C Fincher  
U. S. 55055922  
N. O. H. O. Co.  
15th inf reg.  
3 div 2 P. 0468  
Don



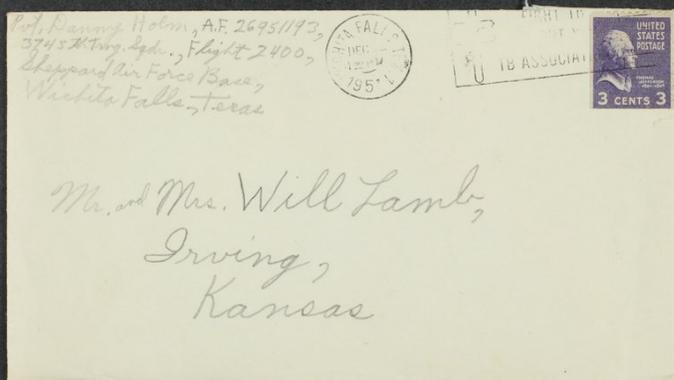
UNITED STATES AIR FORCES

Dec. 17, 51

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Lamb,  
How is everything up there? I received the candy yesterday and card today. Thanks a lot. The weather is nice down here. It never does get below 20° degrees and most of the time you can run around without a coat in the afternoon. The food is pretty good most of the time. We can always get all we want to eat a P.X. if we don't get filled up. It isn't the best but we haven't anything to harp about as long as we are in the U. S. We had gas chamber and gas in the field today. Would you please send Billy's address to me. Thanks again.

Sincerely, Dan

## William Lloyd Lamb to family



## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dec 19, 8 o'clock

Dear Mother & Dad

Don't feel like writing tonight, had to burn stationary, got our chow mixed up. We are fed in different places, platoons that is, we got the spuds & beans for a 20 man group and we feed 60. Don't know if you got the letter that said I sent a scarf well it didn't get past the customs got it back.

I suppose you are wondering where in Korea I'm at. Not sure myself. We're north of the parallel in central Korea, probably 30 or 40 miles north of Seoul (capital city) that is a guess, not too far north of the parallel. Incheon river is about 20 mi <sup>in some</sup> direction.

See if you can get Hunter boy's address also Beckmann. Lost it. Is Fincham with the "Car" division

Never got any mail for 2 days again, hoping for a package too. If you have been writing every day I should have a lot somewhere. Seems to me a mail plane crashed shortly after we left Seattle didn't it. Maybe that is where some of it is at.

The front is too quite tonight. Foggy & damp. Can't see & the woods are wet so can't hear too well either. Have guard from 5 to 7AM tonight. Seems to be a bit of artillery opening up now. No small arms, good sign, I hope.

Candles are are dripping all over me & the letter  
so guess I'll quit writing & move the candle

Sign off with a Happy  
New Year now I guess

Bill

PPe Lloyd Munton  
1855056187  
Bath. A. 64<sup>th</sup> F. A.  
B. N. APO 25

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Mother & Dad  
Well Christmas Day. Winter hit about  
9 this morning, blizzard forming, but  
as yet the Chunks aren't doing any thing  
just hope they stay in there bunkers.  
27<sup>th</sup> is "D" day for the peace talks, just  
2 day left, than watch out.

Didn't get up in time for breakfast  
I guess it was fair, had C rations for  
dinner and if this storm keeps up probably  
have them for supper too doubt if the  
K P's can make it up the mountain  
with out spilling half the food.

Probably be 50% guard again tonight  
after 10, 100% till 10 o'clock

Have a can of beer from our beer  
ration guess I'll drink it now see  
the beer stans powerful stuff. Should  
get our candy ration today never got  
any yesterday Don't have any other news  
so will sign off wishing you well

Bill

Pd Got 2 old letters from you  
Nov 28 & 30 One from Aunt Emily Nov 30  
& from <sup>Nov 28</sup> P. L. & one from Namany.  
Dec 1

Bell

## William Lloyd Lamb to family

Dear Mother & Dad

Write you a line this afternoon before Christmas. Had a good Christmas present this morning. Getting at the CP <sup>Christmas</sup> when a call came in for a Chetick from each platoon, to see Cardinal Spellman, this morning. Left my area at 7:45 and by 9:30, getting a ride every 1 mile or so got to Division Hq. The Cardinal got there about 11:30 said we should have a happy Christmas we are fighting a just cause "H2". There were 5 generals there Van Fleet, O'Donnell, Stine and 2 other 1 star generals 150 boys were there I guess. They took our picture and I was in the 2nd row so if they print it in the Stars & Stripes, I'll send it home. They took our names and they said the cardinal would send you a letter. He kissed his ring and shook his hand.

It is chilly this afternoon don't think it will snow, there is a few clouds forming in the north. Going to <sup>have to</sup> try & build a fire in our bunker I guess.

Hoping the chinks don't try anything fresh here during the holidays I guess they are built up pretty strong to our front

Umbray, I think, is a town close by maybe 10 miles north of Charwon