Cliffbourne Barracks

Washington D.C

January 22 /65

Friend Jerome

 I have begun to think that it is imposable (sic) for me to ever get away from this place. But I have one thing to comfort me as long as I remain here, and that is I have not got to shoulder a knapsack and march twenty or thirty miles. I was somewhat surprised to find by your last that you expected to go back to the Regiment again, but I hope that you will be disapointed (sic) about going back and remain where you was when you last wrote me. Sergt. Shepardson is one of the lucky ones, he got his discharge this morning and went down to the City and I suppose that he will be in old Conn within a few days. After he started I changed my bunk and married a fellow from the 8th C. V. I cannot tell whether I have got a good bed fellow or not but I can tell after one night. I often think of Willets Point and the hapy (sic) days that we spent there, and I some times think of Miss Baker. I cannot tell whether she thinks of me or not but she sometimes drops me a few lines.

 Well those were hapy (sic) times, so much so for you and me to enjoy, but the time will come when one can enjoy our selves and then we will look back to the time that we were sufering (sic) in the servis (sic) of our Uncle Samuel.

 You wished to know if I could support the Blue Jacket yet. No I never have had one of them yet and do not entend (sic) to put it on as long as I can get around it, but I have swelled around camp a number of times with the toad sticker on a number of times. Oh Baldwin, you would have laughed to see me, just imagine a relief of about twenty with Tift in the front of them giving the orders to arm Sabers etc. It is gay and festive to be one of the V. R. C.

 Well Jerome I cannot drink any more wine with you for I have joined the Sons of Temperance. No more Ward Master for Tift for it won’t do to be a Ward Master wither you can drink your regular Wine [or] Whiskey. Give my regards to all of the Boys, except (sic) the same yourself. My paper is plaid and so am I. Jack to his old friend Jerome.