

France July-14-18.

Rev. W. B. Christy

Dear Sir and Pastor,

As this is the National
Holiday in France and we men
of the A. E. F. are taking things
easy for today I will write you
a short letter, of our doings
over here as plain as I can
with out the censor cutting
any of it out.

The people treat us the very
best they know how and we
would have better times
and enjoy our spare
moments if we could
only understand each other
in words. Of course we can
speak some French and
the French can speak

2
a little English But Not
any way Plain Enough for
us To Understand fully
what They are Talking
about.

Every Person Here wears
wooden shoes and use
themselves for pack horses.
They work from about
three am. until dark with
Cradle and Hoe To get
their Crops taken care
of.

They Raise the very finest
of Gardens and take
great pride in their flowers
Have every kind you
can think of.

if It was not for these

3
Being so dirty with their
Dress and Habits I
would say this is the
Prettiest Place in the world
But the dirt and filth only
sets the Beautiful Part.

This Town in which we are
staying is in a valley of the
— mountains of which the
Papers in the States mention
often and their tops are
above the clouds and it
is real pretty all the time
But prettier at sea set than
at any other time.

I have seen several aerial
battles above us that is
real exciting to watch but
I suppose the ones concerned

4
In Them Are quite Busy for I
Imagine They Haft to work and run
to keep the other from knocking him
down.

Every thing is fine and dandy
with all of the boys from home
Our Ymca. will open to morrow
the first one we have had since
arriving in France. We haven't been
still long enough to have our
own y. But now we will
get every thing that is ours
in that line.

Some of the parents of the
New M C Co have heard wild
rumors about certain fellows
being killed or wounded. Such
things are unfounded and are
started by some foolish
person in the States for

5

Some Thing To Tell. In Case
Any Thing Should Happen
The U.S. Gov. Will Tell The
Parents and Wives of The Man
Immediately. It Causes a
Whole Lot of Unnecessary
Worry with The folks Back
Home. We Are Being Well
Fed and Clothed and get
Plenty to Eat.

We Dont Have Time To write
All of Our Friends But we
Do The Very Best we Can. and
One Friend will Hafto Pass The
Letters Around To Let Eachother
Read Them, But we Dont want
That Done In Return To us. you
Want To Return Good for Evil
In The Letter writing.

All Churches Here Are Catholic
and are very fine Buildings

6.

I suppose It Is Very Hot & Dry
Here Now. We Have warm days
and Cool Nights Ideal for
Sleeping But we sleep more
in the Day Time than we do
at Night.

The Letters The Rotary Club
sent out to us were very much
appreciated by all of us. The
new men who have joined
us read them too. We passed
them around. Our Company
is like our large family and
get along with each other fine.
From indications here the war
won't last thru the winter
but cannot tell. as things
might change at any time
but right at present we
are getting decidedly the

7

The Better of It. Will I must
Bring This To a Close and
Write Mother a Letter.

Give all of My Friends
And Mrs Christy & Edith
My Best regards.

I am
Very Truly.

Sergt. E. W. Howey.

C. Co. 139th Inf

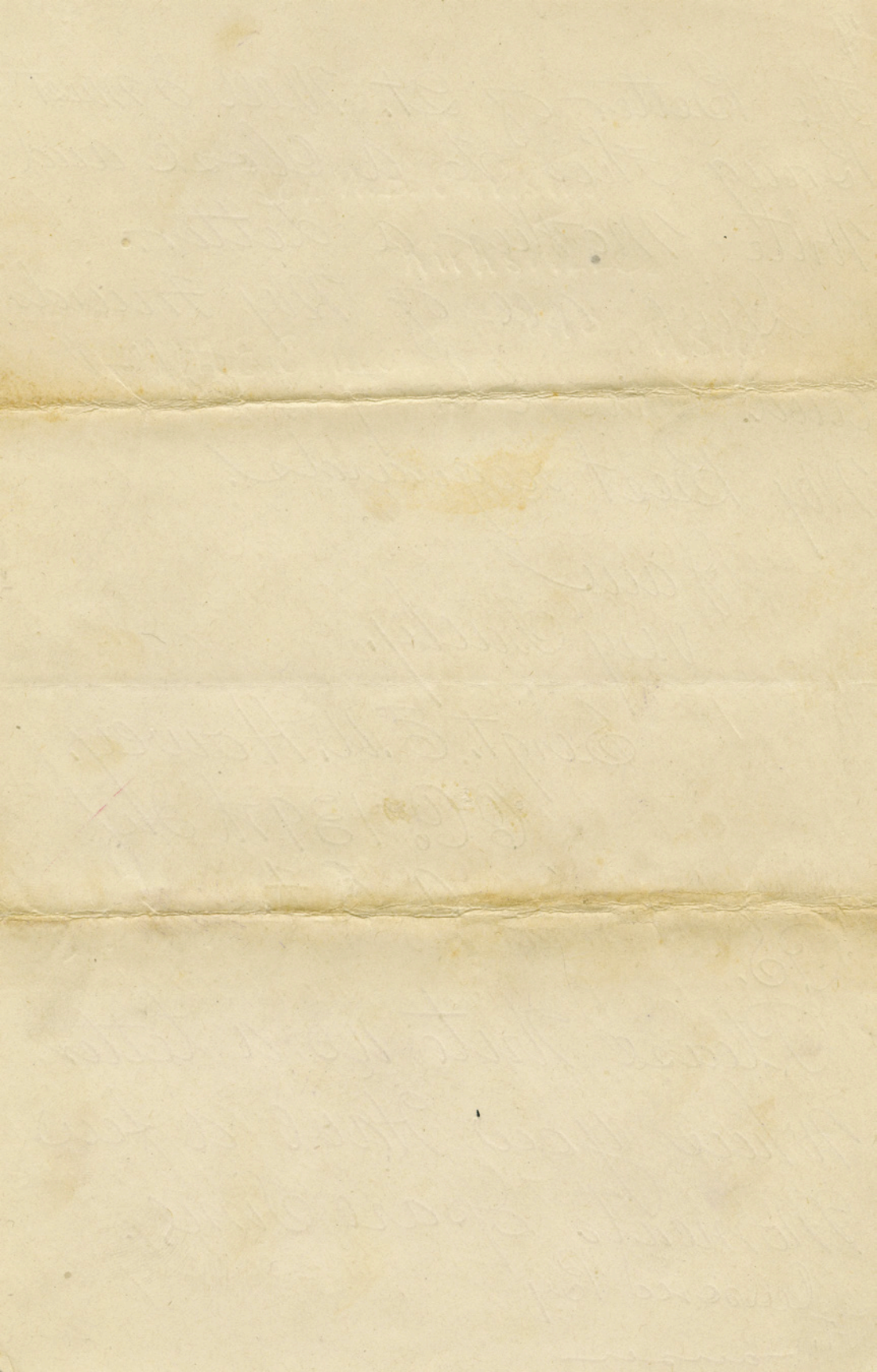
A. E. F.

P.S.

Please Write us a Letter
When you Have a few
Moments Spare Time.

Censored By

Jt. Hansen



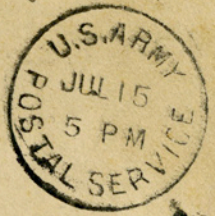
E. W. Hovey.

Soldiers Mail

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Q. C. 139 2nd

A. E. F.



Rev. W. B. Christy.

Kirksville,

Mo

U.S.A.

Censored
By



M. E. Church.

St. Louis

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