

AMERICAN



ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES.

19.

Sept. 7, 1918.

My dear Silvers:-

I know that I am one of the negligent ones who has failed to write you and tell you how much I enjoyed the letters which the Alumni are sending through you to the members of Rutgers College.

No excuses will be forthcoming as they are always more or less unsatisfactory. However the letters enabled me to keep in touch with men in a way that could not otherwise have been done.

I see Van Orden '20 energies
are in a while and if
per chance he has received
some letters which I have
not or visa-versa we
let each other see them.

Our work is interesting
and we see quite a little
of these parts so we are
content. There are some
experiences which would
no doubt be interesting
but which I will have
to wait until I get back
to relate. I have heard
from Haddon and Gray
'20 and Van Arsdale '19
and they are all well.

Your last letter was
particularly interesting
in that it spoke about
the status under which
the college will operate.

There seems to me
a great opportunity, esp-
ecially ~~for~~ men of

AMERICAN



ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES.

19

small means to receive
a fine education along
the scientific lines.

I have been wondering
for quite a while what
George Whisler and
Tony Karen were doing.
Is there anyway you
could find out and let
me know their addresses.
I presume you are
flooded with such
inquiries so I will
allow you plenty of
time if you could
possibly let me know.

In this place we have
a very nice Y.M.C.A.
and spend most of
our time here.

It won't be long now

until college begins and
I presume with the women
there it will be quite
different; but however
the college grounds are
just as interesting and
beautiful as ever and
may the time be short
when we can all get
together again as at
the anniversary and
sing "On The Banks of
The Old Raritan".

With the best of luck
of wishes for a fine
year.

I am

Your friend
L. V. Pratt.

L. Neville Pratt

Saman M. S. Algonquin
% Post Master
New York.

September 30, 1918

L. Neville Pratt,
U.S.S. Algonquin
% Postmaster, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Pratt:

I was mighty glad to have your letter of September 7th and to know that you have been doing since you entered the service of the United States. George Whisler, I understand, is to be married next week, and Tony Raven has already taken the plunge, so there is real news from both of them. I am enclosing on a separate card their present addresses. Both seem well and happy and are always glad to get news from other Rutgers men.

Most cordially yours,

FRS/G

Enc.

Dec. 15, 1918.
Gibraltar.

My dear Silvers:-

You asked in your last letter if we would write and tell you about what happened in the place we were when the armistice was signed so I taking up your suggestion.

In accordance with our schedule we left Gibraltar on the fifth of November, with a convoy of transports and food ships, for England.

Rumors had it that this would be our last trip to England.

Hoping for the best but little expecting it, we sailed out and

encountered a heavy sea, which is very common along this coast. For four days along the coast of Spain and Portugal we tossed and rolled, then the seas became somewhat calmer.

Such a voyage is bound to make the crew more or less depressed and this time was no exception.

Early in the morning of the eleventh we had news by press that the armistice was to be signed at eleven A. M.

So ~~used~~ accustomed to remorse, we little believed this to be true but ~~at~~ shortly after eleven we received the news and all the crew let forth a loud uproar of cheers.

Depression was laid aside and enthusiasm reigned from bow to stern.

The ship could roll all it wished now but no one could be down hearted after that.

The next night the orders were received to proceed with full running lights for Plymouth.

For the first time since we entered the war lights were seen in the

high seas.

What a difference it made, not having to grope ones way about in the darkness.

On our way in we met a convoy of transports carrying some of our soldiers to Brest.

We felt like yelling to them to turn back but of course this was impossible.

We passed quite a few vessels on the way in and informed those who ~~we~~ had not heard ~~of~~ the news and exchanged congratulations with those that had.

Everywhere was heard. It seems impossible that

it is all over.

We have defeated
the Huns.

Tuesday we expect
to leave here hom-
ward bound so ex-
pecting to see you
soon and with
the best of wishes
for a merry Christmas
and Happy New
year, I will leave
you to read about
where some other
fellow found him-
self on that day.

Sincerely

Levellyn N Pratt
1919

[1919]
January 2, 1918

Lewellyn N. Pratt,
U.S.S. Algonquin
% Postmaster,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Pratt:-

Thank you very much for your letter
of December 15th . I have not had any description
of what happened on ship-board when the armistice
was signed, and I am especially glad therefore to
receive your very interesting letter.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,