



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

EARL REED SILVERS

ALUMNI HOUSE

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

Ridgewood, N. Y.  
Oct. 22, 1917.

Mr. Earl Reed Silvers.

Dear Sir: The following address  
will reach Ralph D. S. van Orden.

U. S. S. Yamacraw. C. G.  
c/o Postmaster.

He is now "over there." New York City.





**ARMY AND NAVY**  
**YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION**

" WITH THE COLORS,,  
Provisional Section "C",  
U.S. Army Ambulance Service  
With the Italian Army. 19  
A.P.O. 901.

February 12, 1919.

Dear Mr. Silvers,

The letters of the War Service Bureau of Old Rutgers have given me untold pleasure during the eight months of my sojourn in Italy. Indeed, any attempt to word my appreciation would be folly, but any of the men who have been on this side of the "big drink" well know what a service these letters have rendered in giving the longed for information of college and old college friends.

The only other Rutgers man I know with the Expeditionary Forces in Italy is Thorburn. He is with a sister Section of Ambulance men and situated not far from our present station. Hadden and Bill Gray, who were with us for the greater part of last summer, went with their Section to France.

Of course, the excitement of action is not a thing of the past. Nevertheless, they manage to keep some of the Ambulance Section on the jump and ours happens to be one of the busy ones. We are stationed in territory which this time last year was in Austria's possession and, hence, have had an excellent opportunity to watch the repopulation of the towns in the vicinity by the Italians. The outlook for some of the refugees upon returning was certainly desolate. In the towns that were not concentration points for the artillery or objects for raiding planes, the buildings were systematically stripped of everything of use or value to the invaders, ~~xxxxxxixkaxfkaxxxkaxkx~~ even to the floor boards and the door knobs. It is a pitiful sight to see a family trying to get a foothold in what was once their home and ~~an~~ attempt to get things back again to a living basis. Had it not been for the helping hand of the American Red Cross, serious, indeed, would have been the situation.

It is very difficult for an American to accustom himself to the life of the country and the smaller towns and cities of Northern Italy. Their ideas of living; of comfort, of progress,





ARMY AND NAVY  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

"WITH THE COLORS,,

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of pleasure, in fact of practically ~~all~~ all 20th ~~th~~ Century necessities (according to the American mind) are quite diverse from our own ideas. In the country I have often watched ponderous, slow moving oxen, in twos or fours or sixes, hitched to a plow which very much resembled drawings I have seen of that instrument of agriculture as it was in the days of the Caesars, and driven by - - men? No, by the women! Here, the women work the roads, till the soil and turn their hand to many other forms of manual labor while the men sit around and offer the suggestions. To us this seems altogether strange and quite uncalled for!

In the larger cities, however, there are some things which remind one of the ideals of progress, and many things of historical and artistic value and of surpassing interest. It has been my good fortune to be able to pay "peeking" visits to most of Italy's far famed cities: Rome, Naples, Florence, Venice, Genoa, and Milano, and I shall leave this land with an impression of the genius of the Italian mind, which, in spite of many short comings and questionable standards, has left its <sup>mark</sup> ~~impress~~ on the upward trend of civilization.

Of course now the only news that can be GOOD news is that which ~~saxsaxika~~ answers the question: "When are we going home?" So, thankful for the many happy moments afforded by your letters and looking forward to the paternal hearth and the Alma Mater, believe me

Il ~~sax~~ vostro veramente,

*J. Royce Van Arsdale*  
*Rutgers 1919.*

*Corporal, Provisional*  
*Section 6.*

Provisional Section C  
U. S. Army Ambulance Service  
With the Italian Army  
A. P. O. - 901

To:

March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1919.

The Director,

The Service Bureau of  
Rutgers College,  
Dear Mr. Silvers,

Just a few lines this time  
to inform you of a few facts  
regarding a couple of little changes  
in the the ~~the~~ Service Records. To  
the best of my knowledge Private  
1st. class Theodorus M. Thorburn,  
presently of Provisional Section "A"  
and I are the only men from  
the "Banks of the Old Raritan"



in the service in Italy - at least  
in this particular branch of the  
service.

Speaking for Horburn, if he  
has not already spoken for himself,  
he has been awarded the Italian  
Service Ribbon (red, white and green).  
In fact the all the ambulance  
men, having served six months  
with the Italian Army, are now  
eligible for the ribbon. So that  
includes even myself. Last  
Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, I received  
the decoration of the Italian  
War Cross (Croce de Guerra),  
more out of luck than anything  
else I can recall. Then about  
the first of January the complex

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and intricate responsibility of  
and the questionable authority of  
a Corporalcy (?) were thrust  
upon me. "Dunghere" - I  
guess that's about the limit of  
my informative capacity!

Don't ask me how I  
like "sunmy Italy!" Just  
get me home. If something  
doesn't "bast" in the near  
future will have another gold  
stripe for our left cuff and a  
tiny silver star to stick in the  
middle of our Italian Service bar -  
a star for each year's service.  
On some of these birds around  
here one can't see the ribbon for  
the stars.



Your letter number 33 of Feb.  
10<sup>th</sup> reached me this P.m. with  
its welcome burden of news.

How I hope to be around at  
that June 9<sup>th</sup> reunion.

With many thanks for the Service  
Letters and your patience believe  
me

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Andrews

- Rutgers 1919 -

P.S. Keeping my eyes peeled for  
~~for~~ "ricordi di guerra" but they  
are scarce these days and well  
guarded. Tried to get hold of a  
young cannon the other day with scant  
success. Don't know how I'd get it  
back at any rate since ever limited to  
seven pound packages.

J.A.A.  
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boressein registration number, 5644.

Royal Italian Army. His Royal Highness, the commander of the third army, in view of the royal decree of the 19th of January, 1918, no. 205, ~~determines that~~ orders that there be awarded to Captain John R. Van Aredale of Section C of the Autoambulance Service the broce al Merito di guerra (Cross for Military Merit).

War Zone, 13th February, 1919.

The Lieutenant-General,  
Head of his Division of the Army.  
(Name is illegible)



RUTGERS SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL

1919 SUMMER SESSION

BULLETIN

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Wednesday, July 2

All women students of the Summer Session are eligible for admission to the Summer Session Chorus under Mr. Bartholomew. No voice trials are held but all wishing to take this work should report at Kirkpatrick Chapel on Wednesday evening, July 2 at 7:30.

The regular rehearsals of the Chorus will be held on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 to 8:30 beginning next week. All music is furnished.

One hour of college credit is given for this work.

The concert last summer was a great success. It is urged that the student body again give us its hearty support by enrolling in this course.

Thursday, July 3

Meeting of all students in Kirkpatrick Chapel at 12:15 P.M. Governor Runyon and President Demarest will speak.

Friday, July 4

Classes will not meet.

Saturday, July 5

Classes will not meet.

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Students should note the announcements on the bulletin board in Queen's Building each day.



March 18th, 1919.

Corporal J. Royal Van Arsdale,  
Provisional Section C,  
U. S. Army Ambulance Service,  
A. P. O. 901.

My dear M r. Van Arsdale;-

It was very good of you to write your  
letter of February 12th, and we are grateful for your kind  
thought in thinking of us.

The news which it contains is very inter-  
esting, and we are going to print part of the letter in the April  
issue of the Quarterly.

I sincerely hope that you will be among  
those to return soon to the United States.

Very cordially yours,

Assistant to President.

ERS/b