



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

**SC-11848a: Colonel Marcus M. Spiegel Collection, 1861-1864.**

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1863 December

For more information on this collection, please see the catalog record on the  
American Jewish Archives website.

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My  
No 9120th O.V. I  
Plaquemine La Dec 7/1863

My dear dear Wife & Children!

I am satisfied you are ever  
easy & think it is not as it ought  
to be or perhaps think me derided.

It is true I might have written  
to you from N. O. three days ago  
or my immediate arrival  
but when I tell you that it would  
have been such an one as I do  
not like to send, for when I came  
to New Orleans I had the fier-  
cest first Head Ache I have  
had for many years and as soon  
as I could stand up I started  
for the different Hospitals & then  
joined my bag, from which place  
I now write.



The trip from N.Y. to N.O.  
would have been and unquestionably  
is a grand and sublime one!  
for most of people, especially for  
those who are not light headed  
enough to be sea sick, but for  
me it was anything but pleasant  
for five days out of the eight  
I was as sick as I could well afford  
to be. The fair was fine and grand  
but I could not enjoy it. I in-  
tended you know to give you an  
elaborate description of my journey  
but being below & sick most of my  
time I have not much to say.

In New Orleans I stayed a  
day and a half, mostly in the  
Hospitals looking after my men.

I there learned that my Boys  
were in Plaquemine La about  
100 miles above N. Orleans on  
my old friend the Miss. River.  
I left N.O. at 5 o'clock in the  
evening & arrived in Camp



about 5 o'clock in the morning  
when I met one or two of the boys  
up, one of them, "hello Col Spigel  
oh but I am glad to see you"  
and in less than no time you  
could hear a tremendous commotion  
all along the tents, such as, "say  
the old Col has come back"

"Col Spigel arrived" "I tell you  
"by God he has come back" "where  
is he" "Aint I glad though"  
And in "less than no time I was  
surrounded by my whole com-  
mand, Every body eager to shake  
hands & look at me, most of  
them in their drawers, some  
of them naked, none of them  
with a Hat or Cap, when some  
one proposed "three Cheers for  
the old Colonel" which was given  
with a yell so as to alarm the  
sleeping neighbors.



It was a scene long to  
be remembered, everybody felt  
good & I felt better. I truly  
feel proud of it.

The boat leaves.

Playreminie is a healthy full  
town on the Missis, the boys  
feel fine, better than I ever  
saw them if we are permitted  
to stay here this winter I  
shall say, glory.

Charly Heger was here & will  
leave on the first boat, if he  
gets a Permit from the  
Custom House Office in New  
Orleans, he will start business  
here. How are the children?

My love to Hamlin, Tizzy,  
Mosey & Hattie, my love to  
Elizabeth, is she married?

Your true Lover  
Warcin  
Joe & Josephine are well

Hd qrs 120<sup>th</sup> O.V.I.

Plaquemine La. Dec. 7/1863

My dear dear Wife and children!

I am satisfied you are uneasy & think it is not as it ought to be or perhaps think me derilict. It is true I might have written to you from N.O. [New Orleans] three days ago on my immediate arrival but when I tell you that it would have been such an one as I do not like to send, for when I came to New Orleans I had the severest sick Head Ache I have had for many years and as soon as I could stand up I started for the different Hospitals & then joined my boys, from which place I Now write.

The trip from N.Y. to N.O. would have been and unquestionably is a grand and sublime one for most of people, especially for those who are not light headed enough to be Sea Sick, but for me it was anything but pleasant for five days out of the eight I was as sick as I could well afford to be. The fair was fine and grant [grand] but I could not enjoy it. I intented you know to give you an elaborate discription of my journey but being below & sick most of my time I have not much to say.

In New Orleans I stayed a day and a half, mostly in the Hospitals looking after my men. I there learned that my Boys were in Plaquemine, La about 100 miles above N. Orleans



on my old friend the Miss. River. I left N.O. at 5 o'clock in the Evening & arrived in camp about 5 o'clock in the morning where I met on or two of the boys up. One of them [said], "helloh Col Spiegel oh but I am glad to see you" and in less than no time you could hear a trementeous comotion all along the Tents, such as "say, the old Col has come back" "Col Spiegel arrived" "I tell you by God he has come back," "where is he"; "Aint I glad though" & in less than no time I was surrounded by my whole command, everybody eager to shake hands & look at me, most of them in their Drawyers, some of them naked, none of them with a Hat or Cap, when someone proposed "three Cheers for the old Colonel" which were given with a yell so as to alarm the slumbering neighbors. It was a Scene long to be remembered, everybody felt good & I felt better. I truly feel proud of it.

The boat leaves. Plaquemine is a beautiful town on the Miss, the boys feel fine, better than I ever saw them & if we are permitted to stay here this Winter I shall say, glory.

Charly Hezer was here & will leave on the first boat, if he gets a Permit from the Custom House Officer in New Orleans, he will start business here. How are the Children? My love to Hamlin, Lizzy, Mosey & Hattie, my

love to Elizabeth, is she married?

Your true & loving

Marcus

Joe & Sinsheimer are well





New Orleans La Dec 13/63

My dear dear Cary & Children!

I just recd your short note, written after the return of your journey from New York. It was very short but sweet. The few words in "Hattie's letter your picture" was as much as a whole history of glory to me. I came here this A. M. from Plaquemine to assist Charles & Joseph in getting a permit through to start a store in Plaquemine. I know not yet with what success. I somehow or other do not feel as well at home in the Army any more as I used to many hours of night I lay & think of home, frequently



think I can hear you cry as  
you did a certain night & say  
I know you dont care anything  
about me, it stabs me.

Excuse my lack, I want some  
positive assurance of you, that  
you are not mad at me any  
more and if I ever done or said  
anything to injure your feelings  
forgive me, forgive me, for God  
knows I love you as our son  
loves his wife. Write to me a  
long letter & say it is all right  
If Charles & Jerry succeed they  
will make a nice thing.

~~But~~ I have written to New York  
for some more of those pictures  
most all my officers want them.

I am glad to hear the children  
doing so well. The mail comes  
at 3 o'clock and it is half  
past two now.

God bless you Ever your true  
& ever ready loving husband  
Maud



New Orleans La. Dec. 13/63

My dear dear Cary & Children!

I just recd. your short Note written after the return of Cohn's journey from New York it was very short but sweet. The few words "Hattie knew your Picture" was as much as a whole history of Glory to me. I came here this A.M. from Plaquemine to assist Charley & Joseph in getting a Permit through to start a Store in Plaquemine I know not yet with what success. I somehow or other do not feel as well at home in the Army any more as I used to, many hours of night I lay & think of home, I frequently think I can hear you cry as you dit a certain night & say I know you dont care any thing about me, it startels me.

Caroline my love, I want some positive asurance of you, that you are not mad at me any more and if I ever done or said any thing to injure your feelings forgive me, forgive me, for God knows I love you as no man loves his wife. Write to me a long letter & say it is all right. If Charley & Josey succeeds they will make a nice thing.

I have written to New York for some more of those pictures most all my officers want them.

I am glad to hear the Children doing so well. The mail leaves at 3 o clock and it is half past two now.

God bless you. Ever your true  
& ever dearly loving husband

Marcus





Plaquemine La Dec 23/63

My dear good Kind Wife!

I have thought I would wait until I should receive a letter from you or I would write again, but inasmuch as I have written three or four and not received any yet but the one from you and for fear that it might be some time in my fortunate mail arrives, and not wanting to let you wait so long I thought I had better write.

I am well but feel very lonesome how could I feel otherwise thousands of miles away from all that is near and dear and lovely to me. dont get dispirited my love, keep up courage, it seems to me one half of the time I could see you look at me reproachfully, saying, that's what you done and then left me but my dear dear good Wife my best of all dont feel discouraged I will be home in time to stay with you

I have just or  
much written when an  
order came detailing  
some surgeons to  
go home & recruit



I can read the letter  
by chance this morn-  
ing and write to you

God bless you, you  
will hear of me again  
soon. Good bye ever your  
true loving & devoted  
husband, Warren

My love to my dear Hannah  
Lizzy, Mary & Mattie, God  
bless them



Plaquemine La Dec 23/63

My dear good & Kind Wife!

I have thought I would wait untill I should receive a letter from you ere I would write again, but inasmuch as I have written thrice or four and not received any yet but the one from you and for fear that it might be some time ere my fortunate mail arrives, and not wanting to let you wait so long I thought I had better write.

I am well but feel very lonesome how could I feel otherwise thousands of miles away from all that is near and dear and lovely to me. don't get dispirited my love. Keep up courage, it seems to me one day of the time I could see you look at me reproachfully saying "that's what you done and then left me" but my dear dear good Wife my best of all don't feel discouraged I will be home in time to stay with you.

I have just so much written when an order came detailing some Sergeants to go home & recruit

I can send the letter by chance they have only an [illegible] time.

God bless you, you will hear of me again soon. Good bye.  
Ever your true & loving & doting

husband Marcus

My love to my dear Hamlin, Lizzie, Mosey & Hattie. God Bless them.