

Keene Oct 19 1863

Friend Wilcox;

I was greatly pleased at receiving your letter about a week ago -

The draft which has been the principal topic of conversation for some time past has got to be a worn out subject, and is hardly alluded to now - though I think the President's last proclamation will revive the subject again - It will come pretty hard on us who escaped it before - I will send you a list of the drafted and will mark those who went -

It seems that the Army of the Potomac is advancing on Washington. If McClellan was only in command now he might bring in his "masterly strategy" and make a big victory out of it

His last exhibition of strategy in writing that letter to the Pennsylvania copperheads, showing his sympathy for the rebels by being so anxious to have their property protected, is enough to make any loyal man rejoice that he is not in command of the army now -

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We had quite an excitement on the square Saturday evening. Tim Colony and Billy Warr had another "mill", it was short and sweet and Billy got the woot of it, though he put one of Tim's peepers in mourning. The quarrel grew out of some family difficulty, Miss Nancy Ershie being the innocent cause of it -

The body of Frank Serrett was delayed on the way nearly a week. The funeral was at the house and was largely attended. Will Rand came on with Mrs. Serrett, he had no furlough at the time and was arrested as a deserter, but they did not keep him long -

Hattie has been to Waltham and vicinity visiting her friends she staid three or four weeks and had a very pleasant time - I hear from Sam quite often. he is flourishing in his usual style. They had a report that he was going to be married but there is no truth in it.

Fred Webster was married a few days ago to a Miss Babcock of Northfield Vermont.

I found time to take a boat ride the other day with Nellie Barker and Clara French we started about three o'clock and went up the river about two miles and landed in the wilderness and took our lunch and

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The services were in the Church and were very
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