

Historical Notes to accompany letter dated:

07/20/62: 032

Historical Notes

Readers of this column are likely aware of Cyrus Hardaway's serious interest in food and his recent request to his mother to send him a box of home town foods. In his letter of July 18, 1862, he asked Mary Ann Hardaway Beardslee, for ten pounds of "pretty good" cheese, a small can of jell or preserves, a few dried apples, berries, a pretty good lot of dried froot, a little tea and some tobacco. He also asked his mother to have his step brother, Gust, "get a bottle of good Gin and pack it well and put that in." We are pleased to report that future letters confirmed that Hardaway received all of his requests, including the "good Gin" necessitated for "drinking this muddy water has affected my kidney."

In addition to his appreciation for food, Hardaway frequently mentioned the names of his family, friends, and acquaintances also serving in the Union army. Some of the persons listed by Hardaway are known, e.g., "Harrington." Others are not known but it is likely that readers may have information regarding these other New Berlin/Pittsfield Civil War soldiers. The following is a list of the individuals mentioned so far in Hardaways letters. If you have information, please feel free to contact us so that we might include that information in future *Historical Notes*.

Henry Harrington
Lt. Chase
Adrian Foote
Edwin Nelson
Alfred Aldrich
George Beardslee
_____ Cleveland
Charley Buchanan
Charles Beardslee
Frank Eagle
Smith Haight
William Angell
Joe Pixby
William Doubleday (Cooperstown)

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