

Letters written by Chase Sheldon
to his mother



10-22

AMERICAN RED CROSS.

Russia

12/14/18

Dear ma -
just rec'd sixteen letters
the other day, so will now
proceed to answer yours
anyway. First mail we have
got for a couple of months.
I got three from you. your
latest one was of ~~Sept 29~~
Sept 29. Guess it stayed
in Archangel for a couple
of weeks before they started
it down here to us. The
weather is fine here now
cold but dry and not too
much snow. We have
lots of clothes to keep
us warm.



-2-

AMERICAN RED CROSS.

Sheepskin overcoats Seather
Jackets all kind of sweaters
not an gloves & fur cap.
They say the war is over in
France but it dont make
much change up here as
yet. allthough there is not
much fighting going on
now. I got a letter from
Leslie he thought I was in
France. This is a pretty
Good town we are in now
just as soon stay here as
not. Got skates Skies go
hunting an all kind of
sports. The General was
here the other day he said
he wanted us to have



. 3.

AMERICAN RED CROSS.

All the sport we could
while in this town. But
didn't talk as though we
were here for long. We have
had some hard times
here in Russia but think
it's nearly over with now.
It's three P. M. and the moon
is up. Gets light about
nine in the morning.
The wolves came in here
the other night and carried
away a couple of dogs
so the Rusks say. So now
our guards shoot every
thing they see at night
from cats up. We were
out hunting rabbits the other
day. Had a dog with us
one of the fellows decided



4

AMERICAN RED CROSS.

he was no good so up an
shot him. Got some papers
from the states with our
mail. They were about
three months old but were
more interesting to us than
one a day old would be
to us over there. I got your
picture it was fine of you.
Also the birthday card.
I don't understand what
you mean about my going
from Custer East and then
back to Mich. then east
again. We never took that
trip. None of the Infantry
anyway. Perhaps some
other unit did. I think
there was a Co. of Engineers
that did that. Our Regiment
was the only one that came



-5-

AMERICAN RED CROSS.

up here. The others from Custer
went to France. You ask
me if I need money. No don't
send me any. We haven't
had a pay since we were
in England and I think
most all of us have more
money now than when
we left. You ask how I
keep up the insurance. I don't
have nothing to do with
that. They take care of
that over in the states
the same as with the
allotment. You get that
regular don't you? So
Carl on Wesley stayed in
helped their folks. Well
it's a good place for
them. Wouldn't want



.6.

AMERICAN RED CROSS.

such birds as them over here. But dont tell them I said so. They would die of fright in the first battle. Yes I am through going to school. none of that since we left Eng. So I. on Monday are back in Rotterdam. Give them my love. So Geo. said they run into a fleet of submarines so did we the guns on our boats fired on them we didnt see any more of them the rest of the trip. We had to watch for them get ~~up~~ up here to it was all in the submarine zone. The white sea was a mine field. over

The censor would cut out
 any thing we said about
 the trip but guess its
 all right now. I'll have
 to write on ~~the~~ the back of
 these sheets or else I can't
 get it ~~get it~~ all in. We
 have an acordeon an violin
 they are both going now.
 Trying out the Russian
 dance I guess. Have good
 players for both of them.
 we bought them off
 some English soldiers
 coming down the river
 on a barge. That was
 some trip. Seven days
 making _____ miles. Got
 stuck in the ~~the~~ weather
 on sand bars.

well this is Sunday
 the 15. of Dec. Guess I
 will finish this up. Its
 the longest letter I ever
 wrote now. But they dont
 come very often so will
 make up for it when
 I do write. Its snowing
 a little here today. There
 is more fellows writing
 today than I have seen
 since we landed in Russia
 because we just got
 mail I guess. So Leslie
 dont think much of the
 ocean trip. well we
 have quite a little of
 it to go over before
 we get back. I dont
 mind it any if we
 dont have a cattle
 boat to make it in.

I got a Letter from Art
McQuillen. It was
~~addressed~~ Camp Custer. Pretty
old you see. I got one
letter on card from
Geo. He was well. I
wouldnt worry about
him because he dont
write much if I were
you. you ~~to~~ know he
never did write much.
well its 2³⁰ P. M. Sunday
In I will have to get
some light before I
finish this up, candles
all ~~light~~ lighted, but
dont think I will write
much more. The music
is drounding out all my
thoughts. Just got some
more clothes in today.

Don't know what we will
do with any more. I
got to write another
letter so will close
I got one from Mabel
Philips also one from
Mrs Burt.

Bye.

Sgt Sheldon

Co. F. 339 Inf.

~~N. R. A. Expeditionary~~
~~Archangelsk~~

Archangels, Russia

Ralph Lehman
Capt Inf. U.S.A.

Written by Claire N. Sheldon
to his mother,
Home, Carthage N.Y.

Letter written by Clair Sheldon
to his mother.

Russia
12/14/18

Dear ma—

Just rec'd sixteen letters
the other day, so will now
proceed to answer yours
anyway. First mail we have
got for a couple of months.
I got three from you. Your
latest one was of
Sept. 29. Guess it stayed
in Archangel for a couple
of weeks before they started
it down here to us. The
weather is fine here now
cold but dry and not too
much snow. We have
lots of clothes to keep
us war.

[page 2]

Sheep skin overcoats leather
jackets all kind of sweaters
sox an gloves + fur cap.
They say the war is over in
France but it dont make
much change up here as
yet. Although there is not
much fighting going on
now. I got a letter from
Leslie he thought I was in
France. This is a pretty
good town we are in now
just as soon stay here as
not. Got skate skies [skis] go
hunting an all kind of
sports. The general was
here the other day he said
he wanted us to have

[page 3]

all the sport we could
while in this town. But
didn't talk as though we
were here for long. We have

had some hard times
here in Russia but think
its nearly over with now.
Its three p.m. and the moon
is up. Gets light about
nine in the morning.
The wolves came in here
the other night an carried
away a couple of dogs
so the Ruskies say. So now
our guards shoot every
thing they see at night
from cats up. We were
out hunting rabbits the other
day. Had a dog with us.
One of the fellows decided

[page 4]

He was no good so up an
Shot him. Got some papers
from the states with our
mail. They were about
three months old but were
more interesting to us than
one a day old would be
to us over there. I got your
picture it was fine of you.
Allso the birthday card.
I dont understand what
you mean about my going
from Custer East an then
back to Mich then east
again. We never took that
trip. None of the Infantry
any way. Perhaps some
other unit did. I think
there was a Co. of Enginers
that did that. Our Regiment
was the only one that came

[page 5]

up here. The others from Custer
went to France. You ask
me if I need money, no dont
send me any. We havent
had a pay since we were
in England an I think
most all of us have more

money now than when we left. You ask how I keep up the insurance. I dont have nothing to do with that. They take care of that over in the states the same as with the allotment. You get that regular dont you? So Carl an Wesley stayed an Helped their folks. Well its a good place for them. Wouldnt want

[page 6]

such birds as them over here. But dont tell them I said so. They would die of fright in the first battle. Yes I am through going to school. None of that since we left Eng. So F. an Maude are back in Potsdam. Give them my love. So Geo. said they run into a fleet of submarines. So did we the guns on our boats fired on them we didnt see any more of them the rest of the trip. We had to wach for them get up here to it was all in the submarine gone. The white sea was a mine field. Over

[page 7]

The censor would cut out anything we said about the trips but I guess its all right now. Ill have to write on the back of these sheets or else I cant get it ~~get it~~ all in. We have an acordian an violin they are both going now. Trying out the Russian dance I guess. Have good

players for both of them.
We bought them off
some English soldiers
coming down the river.
On a barge. That was
some trip. Seven days
making miles. Got
stuck in the ice then
on sand bars.

[page 8]

Well this is Sunday
the 15 of Dec. Guess I
will finish this up. Its
the longest letter I ever
wrote now. But they dont
come very often so will
make up for it when
I do write. Its snowing
a little here today. There
is more fellows writing
today than I have seen
since we landed in Russia
because we just got
mail I guess. So Leslie
dont think much of the
ocean trip. Well we
have quite a little of
it to go over before
we get back. I dont
mind it any if we
dont have a cattle
boat to make it in.

[page 9]

I got a letter from Art
Mcquillen. It was
addressed Camp Custer. Pretty
old you see. I got one
letter an card from
Geo. He was well. I
wouldnt worry about
him because he dont
write much if I were
you. You know he
never did write much.
Well its 2:30 p.m. Sunday
an I will have to get

some light before I
finish this up. Candles
all lighted. But
dont think I will write
much more. The music
is drowning out all my
thoughts. Just got some
more clothes in today.

continued on page 10

[page 10]

Dont know what we will
do with any more. Ive
got to write another letter so will close
I got one from Mabel
Philips allso one from
Mrs. Burt.
Bye.
Sgt. Sheldon
Co. F. 339 Inf.

Northern Russian American Expedition France

Archangel, Russia

Ralph HeHawary
Capt Inf U.S.A.

Written by Claire W. Sheldon
To his mother.
Home, Carthage N.Y.