

Dear Island Maire

Aug. 16th 1880

Dear ~~Dave~~ I received
your kind and long letter on the tenth
instant and ^{was} very glad to hear from you
that you were in good health as it leaves
to me in at present we did not leave
Port Johnson as soon as I told you
^{but} we left the next day, but did not
go out we anchored down at sandy hook
for two days the reason we did not
leave sooner was because we were a
fraid off a storm. but saturday morny
been clear we left and arrived at
Dover on tuesday. and laid there three
or four days the reason I did not write to you
sooner was. that we did ^{not} know where we
were a-given to the captain been a

shore and I was waiting for ~~to~~
him to come aboard so we find
out where she was gone to so I could
write and tell you where to address your
~~the~~ letter to. you were asked me in the letter
about salt horse. we dont get none of that
here we get ~~to~~ corn beef. I have no
fault to find to the grub here only
we dont get sugar in our coffee or tea
but that is noted. I am getting used
to it now. Dear Dede you must
not be discontented for you dont no how
it makes feel to have you worn so.
cheer up dont let your courage fail for
I will be home in side of two weeks
~~the~~ if not before for the vessel is a wait
to be loaded with cobel stones. as soon
as she is loaded we are a goen to Albany ^{New York}
up the hudson to on land and from there
to New York. ^{so} now as I have noted more at
present I will draw this kind and love

to a close hope that when it reaches you it
will find you in good health as it leaves
me in at present.

Dear
Good by Write soon.

I remaine your loving
Francis P. Shields.

Deer Island.
Maine.

Dont forget your lover

Address your letter to Albany
New York,

you must excuse me for not
writing sooner

1904-1-30
1880-5-14

218-14

Grandpa's letter



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