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[Letter], 1863, Mar. 6, Rockland, R.I., Harrison Clarke [to] Alan Cameron

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and 40 years - married or single. It
is supposed 60,000 men will be called
for in a few days which will indicate
somebody is in earnest. I will send
you a paper containing the news
late in a few days so I will
explain no more at present.

Hoping soon to hear from you I
remain respectfully

Sgt. A. P. Cameron
Harrison Clarke
Pougausset
Rockland N. I.

March 6th 1863

A. P. Cameron
Dear Sir;

You need not feel surprised
because of my writing you at this time
I have frequently made the attempt
and as often failed. I have already
quite a correspondence with members
in nearly all parts of the army but
yours and indeed I am fond of such,
because I presume on a greater degree
of accuracy with reference to their doings
and movements when having it directly
from them than when through the
various columns of the many news-
papers I see. They are so very conflicting
written, some for political schemes, some
for financial effect, and for sensation
generally, all of which is very un-
satisfactory to one who wishes to know

the fact as they are. If they pleasing
or not so pleasing. I presume you have
been kept posted as to things generally
and events transpiring around here. So that
I can add nothing new of interest. Magnificent
Mill is running full time. averaging
about 540 cwt. per week. 40 yds each
Cotton worth 94c. per lb. Print cloth
18 c. per yd. Cannot tell as mill run
longer than April ~~or not~~. Think however
shall though cotton is outrageously high
and cloth does not bring corresponding
prices. We begin to get cotton from
foreign countries - Considerable from Central
South America and some from Central
America. In fact nearly all the cotton
in use whether domestic or not has
passed through the speculator's hands
to Europe and then reshipped back
hence its high price which need not
necessarily have been - as it is. But
we shall yet see brighter days.
I am not discouraged yet. Did not

expect at such times as these things
could roll over on without being disarranged.
War is the greatest curse of man, but
when waged for the right, his greatest
privilege and holiest cause. But we
are not all patriotic enough at these times
to engage in the maintenance of right.
If we were, we should all be with you
now battling and fighting the enemies
of our country. Now have I supposed
heard of, or seen the conscription bill
as passed by the last congress. I think
it a very good thing. The same should
have been done eighteen months ago
and ere this, the rebellion would have
crushed its might and named to nothing-
ness. This new bill provides for calling
out of all or as much as the Executive
see fit of the militia fit for duty between
the ages of twenty and thirty five
years, with all the unmarried to
forty five. This is the class to be
drafted first. Second all between 20 -