

Camp in the field near Marietta Ga  
July 7 1864

My Dear Parents Brothers & Sisters

With greatest pleasure I take my pen this present moment to pen you a few lines. The war news I cannot tell you what would be new to you. Our men are steadily advancing and we hold M. now and some of the wagons have gone there this morning for Forage. I am well and hope these few lines will find you all the same. The reason why I have not written before is I have not had the material to write with

But this morning I had the pleasure of seeing the Regt pass and they halted just long enough for my Orderly to get me the paper and Envelopes you sent. They came all right but as the co and Regt was written so largely with the other directions they sent it to the Regt. What there is left of the Regt looks tough and hardy but the company that Col Drake raised and took to the 49th was a good deal larger than the 154 is now. Some Rebel Deserters came into our train the other day and they talk very despondingly of the cause and chances of the Rebellion. Yesterday we were on the go and passed in sight of miles of Rebel Earthworks some looked scarcely dry and some of the brush shades they had put up was not withered. The works are of the strongest kind and almost every available point is entrenched. Genl Hooker passed here last night and where his Hd Qrs were yesterday Atlanta could be seen with a glass so they tell me. It is reported here that the Rebs are making extensive preparations to prevent us even beyond the River and if their loss has been equal to ours they need all the dirt they can pile up to cover the rest of their carcasses from our guns but it is significant how a little stratagem on our part make them Skeddale they are peculiarly adapted for getting over the ground at 240 speed. We spent the 4th in a lovely and splendid pasturage acres upon acres of corn that stood for the most part higher than my head one day was leveled to the ground and consumed in the next 24 hours. The rebel soldiers are told all sorts of stories of Yankee barbarity and the basest lies you hear of the Reb leaders telling their men you need not think to be an exaggeration. It is pretty well understood that some of their troops have gone to reinforce Lee and that Joe Johnston takes command of the Va army while Ewell tries his hand at stopping the further progress of Yanks in Ga. at this moment the Yankee cars are Hooting at Marietta and I hear them. The Lord has prospered our armies so far and I have faith to believe that he will not let Ewell or any one else control the tide of victory or let Rebels gain triumph. It is almost a total wilderness through this part and when the war closes the south need not complain for want of roads on which to travel. Ga is or contains the most extensive Battle field on this continent. We might say it reaches from Ringgold to Marietta already and bids fair to extend still farther and is miles in width. It is now more than two months since we left the valley and \_\_\_\_\_ from Scripture but if the warnings that those Brazen throated monsters have uttered could be transmitted to paper it would fill volumes of the most powerful appeals at any rate as it is we

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have convincing proof and so have the Johnnies of the strength and accuracy of Yankee gunnery the Johnnies in particular now dont take me for jesting and I will give you proof. At Lost Mountain we could put shells right in the Reb fort on the summit and make them burst and a few miles back we passed through earthworks on a hill where were stationed one of their artillery and two houses besides a number of large trees one of the houses was knocked all to pieces and the other pierced near a hundred times besides the trees looked exceedingly demoralized by the shells one that was full a foot and a half through was almost torn to shreds It certainly would be worth any mans money to pass over the ground and see the works but I must close so good bye Love to all and many happy hours

Charley

Please write the co and Regt on cover of the Envelope in small letters

Charley