

but if he sees any opportunities in Florida he will do so. "...I have consigned my goods to a house in Hilton Head who will sell them...H.G. Ely." \$25

69. 81st NY Infantry (3 pgs ink) from I. Nane of Co. C at Morehead City, NC on Sept 8, 1863 to Brother. Says he just came off guard this morning and doesn't really feel in a "writing mood," but he will reply to the latest letter. Mentions new conscripts arriving daily, and a boat load of them came in yesterday and went up on the cars to Newbern, but "I don't know where they were from...I am anxious to get the county paper now that they Draft has come off. I heard it came off on the 27th of Aug, but haven't hear no more. I think that Ohio has furnished volunteers enough so that her quota will be small, or at least it should be..." \$30

70. "I Had To Describe The Scenes At Gettysburg For Them..." writes Salmon Beardsley, 154th NYV (3 pgs ink, 8x10") on Sept. 1, 1863 at Alexandria, VA to family. Says he has been to the 1st Division, 2nd Brigade near Kelly's Ford in command of the drafted men (describes responsibilities). He has traveled on the cars twice recently. On last Sunday he had a good visit at 64th NY with Captains Hunt and Wait. He stayed with Chaplain Hibbard. "...I have been up to the parole camp with Lt. Chapman, who also came yesterday, and have seen most of the paroled prisoners of our regiment. Had a real good visit. It seemed like meeting friends at home after being so long away from them *as we had stood side by side on the field where death was dealing destruction and broadcart around*, and I had to describe the scenes of Gettysburg for them..." \$150

71. Roanoke Island Battlefield Memento (4 pgs ink w/cover) from George Nichols, 25th MA Infantry at Roanoke Island, March 2, 1862 to Sister. Says that they are still fighting on the island; they are to perform a diversionary tactic tomorrow while General Reno will make the strike. "...There is 1200 Georgians up at Elizabeth City and they say that they should like to meet the 25th. They are the ones that commenced the fight on Roanoke Island and I should like to meet the buggers. I bet one dollar that they would run. When the gunboats went up there and burned the city they flourished big knives and boasted that they could eat a bayonet. We'll see...Some of the boys have been up there (the battlefield) and they got some bushes and other things. *In this letter you will find a leaf that came off the battlefield* [enclosed]. I thought that I would send it just as a notion...The rebels had a Black Flag but they did not unfurl it. They would have liked to have beaten and killed every one of us. *Then they would have carried it on the flag like victory and death for it had a skull and crossbones on it...*" \$125

72. Hunter's Expedition to Lynchburg (4 pgs ink, 6x8") from Edgar Peirce, 14th PA Cavalry on July 14, 1864 at Parkersburg, WV to Brother. Excellent letter which says in part, "...We left a desolate track behind us. We burned and tore up things generally. We ruined some fine looking places. * Lexington especially was one of the wealthiest and prettiest towns that I ever saw. *Stonewall Jackson* is buried there. The only monument that he has is a flagstaff with the Confederate colors flying from it. They had it hauled down when we entered the place. There was an arsenal, military institute and the Washington Institute there. They were all burned together with Governor Letcher's house... *But on coming back a great many fellows were starved to death, but how many no one will ever know*..Hundreds of horses gave out in the mountains...I saw men beg for an ear of corn, and pitch into it like a hungry horse. I offered a Negro woman five dollars for a pancake, and I could not get it for even that. *A great many Darkeys followed us and our trains and our trains were loaded with black, greasy, Negroes while the white soldiers dragged themselves along footsore and starving*. Hundreds were left by the roadside...I have escaped without a scratch and I have been in all the fighting except the New Market fight. *I was next to the Captain when he was shot as we were making a saber charge on McCausland's men. After the Captain was wounded I was sent with ten men to charge again on an entire column...*" \$135

73. Gettysburg Casualties (4 pgs ink w/cover) from Ira Simmonds, 146th NY Infantry on August 2, 1863 in camp near Warrington, VA. Reflects back to Gettysburg Campaign and writes "...I have seen some awful much marching and fighting since I last wrote to you...I suppose that you heard about T. Haney's death. He was taken sick on the march and he was cared for 2 days in the ambulance. Then he was left to fend for himself. He did not live but 3 or 4 days after he got to the Hospital...I saw Dwight [Stannard] after the Battle [Gettysburg] and he was all right. But Alfred Sherman was killed there and J. Aman was wounded or killed. Billy Morrin was killed dead. *There was one man killed in my company right by my side*...The weather remains hot enough to roast a Nigger, and all the while on the march there were a great many of the boys who fell down to the ground overcome with the heat..." Ira Simmonds was KIA 6/18/64. \$95

74. Recalling Gettysburg (2 pgs ink, 8x14" w/patriotic cover) from Dwight Stannard (Ira Simmonds brother-in-law), 97th NY Infantry in Camp at Bealton Station, VA on July 28th 1863 to wife. Writes that for the last several weeks they have seen the hardest service. "...We have had to build breastworks at night and then we would leave them by marching all day...The Colonel has gone for conscripts to fill up the regiment...we are again to have 700 in the regiment which will be as large as it ever was and then look out for fighting..." Says in the last month they have marched 470 miles thereabouts, then comments "...I lost everything in the fight [Gettysburg]. I had to leave my knapsack when they drove us off the field so we had no time to get anything. It was a long time before we could get anything. We had to lay out in the rain without tents or any blankets. *We have got some tents but we haven't gotten any clothes yet, and the most of us are bare ass*...The Army is scattered all over now..." \$125

75. Vicksburg Letter (4 pgs ink, 8x10" w/cover) from Joseph Arnold, 96th Ohio Infantry on Mar 29, 1863 to Sister. Fine letter which says in part, "...We left camp in sight of Vicksburg and went up the river some eighteen miles. They think that they will starve them out at Vicksburg. The rebs are very strong there but we have a very big army and if the weather don't get too warm we can whip them for sure. They can't hold out much longer for they say they are tired of this war. There are many Niggers, they are plenty here...This is a poor place for such [loneliness] here. We hear that they are generally apt to wither and die here, those boys that are homesick. There is some that have died in that way...I think that it will be a hard place to take as they will fight like men. *The rebs say that they will fight us till the men is gone, and then they say that the women will turn out and fight*. But they are scarce here and can't see any of them for they are a hiding in their holes. There are lots of them and they are too mean to leave this place...We want to see them run and they have to get out of our way or they will get killed..." Ends with full regt. id. \$95

76. Battle of Rawle's Mills (4 pgs ink, 6x8" w/cover) from Thomas Barnaby 44th MA Inf. at Newbern, NC on December 7, 1862 to Cousin. Long, detailed account of expedition to Williamston, NC including the Battle at Rawle's Mills. Writes the expedition commenced Oct. 27th and initially traveled by ship, the "George C. Collins". "...We marched till about six o'clock in the evening when by the firing in the advance we knew that we had come upon the rebels. There was some excitement when the 44th was ordered to advance to support the battery...We advanced in fine style marching to the music of the booming of the cannon. We got so near the rebels that the musket balls would pass over our heads, we were ordered to halt. We stood there for some time and all the time the musketballs would fly over our heads thick and fast. The order to advance was soon given...It was perfectly frightful to hear the shells come crashing through the woods and pass over our heads and to hear them strike on the other side of the road...We had gone but a few rods when from the sides of the road we received a volley of fire in our ranks with telling effect. One of the officers was wounded in 4 different places. He had 9 bullet holes in his coat alone...I can tell you the bullets did whistle around our legs, but I think that we gave them as good as they delivered. I then had a chance to fire my gun in defense of my country..." \$225