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From the 154th N.Y. Vol.
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Mr. Editor, and readers of the Censor: To-day finds me seated by my table to write to you, a few lines, thinking, perhaps they may be very acceptable, especially as they come from a soldier from your own County. Well, we have at last succeeded in capturing the rebel stronghold "Atlanta," but it has been a hard road to travel. The saying is, "Jordan is a hard road to travel," but the road we have come to Atlanta is a harder one than Jordan, I believe, and there are more bullets whistling on the Atlanta road. We have seen some stormy times since we started. We have been in the battles of Stoney Faced Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, Pine Knob, Kenesaw-Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and before Atlanta. We have only got about 100 guns in our regiment now; the 154th Regt. is but a mere shadow of what it was when we started for active service. Some have died, some have been discharged, some have deserted, some have fallen on the battlefield by rebel bullets, and some are now in the hands of the Johnny Rebs as prisoners of war. So you can see they are scattered all around. Some are enjoying themselves in their homes, some in bondage, some gone to their eternal home, and some are suffering with wounds in the hospital; but they are honorable wounds, received in defending the old flag, the stars and stripes, our Country's pride and hope. And now the old flag floats in triumph over Atlanta, where but a short time ago floated the ensign of treason and rebellion against a glorious Union. But that rebel ensign can never more wane in triumph where our gallant leader (Major General W. T. Sherman) and his army go. This army knows nothing but victory when General Sherman is at the head of it. He

has outgeneralled every opposing leader he has encountered yet. The rebel General Johnston could do nothing with him, and they put in General Hood; but he had to get up and "dig out" of Atlanta and I guess they had better put in a sunbonnet next time instead of a Hood, and see what luck they will have.

When we took Atlanta we got 22, 64lb siege guns and several small cannon and ammunition. The Rebs burned two trains of cars loaded with ammunition to keep us from capturing it, and every mud and water hole was full of shells and powder. They spiked all the guns they left, so they would be of no use to us for a while. They burned the carriages to some of the big guns, and blew up their magazines before they left.

The city is a very fine city but it is badly torn in pieces by Yankee shells. The citizens say they had to lie low when we were shelling the city. Most of the citizens have got bomb proofs dug in their yards, to crawl into when the shells were visiting them. There is an order issued by General Sherman that all citizens here who have friends in the rebel army have got to go through the lines to rebel territory, and the rest must go north. The citizens are feeling awfully over it.

The army is lying still now, getting recruited up and clothed and paid off; then it will be hurrah for Macon. The distance is 105 miles, and if General Sherman undertakes to go there, he will go, in spite of the whole Confederacy. The army has lost 15,000 men on this campaign, and the 20th Corps has lost 7,000; so you can see whether the 20th Corps has seen any fighting or not. We had a general with us whom you could

ask his men to go where he would not go.
depend upon, and he would not ~~go~~. This man is General Hooker. He was well liked by the whole corps, and we disliked to part with him. He was a man who would never see his men go hungry as long as he could get anything. The 20th Corps has had excellent living on the march. We have not wanted for anything to eat until General Hooker left us; we have since been rather short, but get along very well. We have soft bread, coffee, sugar, fresh beef, bacon or pork, mixed vegetables, beans, soap, candles, etc. so you can see what our living consists of. We have enough now and live high here in Atlanta.

Yours truly,

M. J. G.