Head Qrs 13th Ohio Cav
Petersburg Va May 16th 1865

Dear Father

I should have written to you some time since had I not expected to be at home before this, but as the prospect of getting home soon is not as good now as it was two weeks ago and getting worse every day I concluded it was no use to wait for uncertainties any longer. During active operations I had but little time for writing, and when we had time we were beyond the reach of mails. I cannot give you a history of all I have seen and done for the past two months When I come home I will tell you all about the part taken by the Cavalry in the campaign which ended so gloriously

Digital Image, Special Collections, Pelletier Library, Allegheny College, 2021

witnessed the surrender of what remained of that once famous army. Lt. Ed Cooper of my old company was killed a bout 15 minutes before the surrender took place and is so far as we can learn the last officer ever killed by the rebel army of northern Va. He was the bravest and best officer I have and we all feel his loss very much I have lost Seventy five men and officers wounded & killed. and one hundred and twenty five horses killed and wounded so that we had to leave them I started with 213 men. We took no horses that we thought would not stand the hardest kind of usage which with those already dismounted formed the greater portion of nearly all the regiment. I have escaped unhurt how I could escape so often is almost a miracal. There is but one other officer in the regiment who has been in every fight and escaped

Digital Image, Special Collections, Pelletier Library, Allegheny College, 2021

in the capture of Gen Lee and his army. My regiment bore an honorable part in every engagement fought during the campaign. And I have the pleasure of knowing that my regiment is as well and as favorably known as any in the division

We captured Brig Gen Corse and staff of Pickets division with two hundred of his men, the same day I captured and burnt a train of forty waggons and succeeded in bringing off most of the teams and drivers. On the 6th of April I made my first Saber charge on the 4th Va Rebel cavalry they have gained possession of the main road leading to Burkesville by driving the 2d New York who were to hold it. I drove them back and captured their Colors with a good many prisoners. At Appomattox Court House I made the last mounted fight ever made against the army of Northern Va and

Digital Image, Special Collections, Pelletier Library, Allegheny College, 2021

unhurt. At Dinwiddie Court House
I had nine officers in the fight Six of
the nine were killed and wounded
and not one escaped without
some mark, I had three holes in my
cloth and my horse shot twice.
This was the hardest fight I ever saw
and hope never to see one other such.
The mail boy has come for the mail
and if this goes to day I must stop where
I am. I will send it and write the
balance to morrow.

Give my love to all our friends
and Mother in particular

Affectionately your Son

S. R. Clark

Digital Image, Special Collections, Pelletier Library, Allegheny College, 2021