

Camp 13th (C. V. C)
In the field Aug 28th 1864
Dear Del,

I am a
fraid you will think I
am neglecting you, as
I have written you
nothing for nearly two
weeks, but one poor
miserable little note on
the back of an order.
I often thought of writing
and sometimes had time
if I could have used it
but that was out of the
question as all the paper
we brought with us had
been wet and thrown
away. and if it had
been written how would
I have sent it - as the
regular mail did not go

The first three days we
went out we were wet to
the skin all the time, and
at nights were so cold
that we could not
sleep, and dare not
build fires. Until yesterday
the men were not allowed
to take their things off
for a minute and when
not moving were not
allowed to leave the
line of battle. When we
stopped for any time the guns
were stucked, and the
men allowed to lay down
beside them, but not to
leave, as there was no
telling what time the
Johnnies might light down
upon us. We came just
in time the day of the
first fight.

The Johnnies had nearly
surrounded the fifth corps
and would have captured
nearly the whole of it had
it not been for the timely
arrival of the 9th. They
were right in the rear
of the fifth and had
captured one whole
Brigade when we came
up but most of them
escaped as they were
not anxious about prison-
ers when they found
we were getting between
them and Petersburg.

At first they seemed
disposed to fight us but
I think they thought
we were part of the fifth
corps trying to get out.
They started to hang
for their own good

At one time they had
several thousand
prisoners in their
hands and might
have kept them
had they sent them
immediately to the
rears. Some very amusing
incidents occurred during
the day. The battle field
most of it was a swampy
wilderness. Nearly as bad
as the swamp near Abenon
and some places full as
bad if not worse. By the
time we got there they were
well mixed up. They took
the whole of a Pa regt put
it under guard and started
it for what they supposed to be
the rear and what was
the rear when they

will not return
till some time next
month. And till he
does return I will be
in command of the
regiment. The Mayor is
still here as he has not
heard from his
resignation yet. He
has no disposition
to take command
and could not if he
wished to as the regt.
would not be commanded
by him and he is so well
known at head quarters
that their wishes would
be respected. I have
very nice Quarters
built of pine boughs
with my tent in the
rear for a dressing room
and sleeping apart-
ment.

as deliberately as though he
had been put there for that
special purpose, but boys
were to snick for him and
before he could fire was
shot through from both
sides and instantly killed.
On the fight on Sunday
a Lin ground soldier shot
took my hat off my head.
but such escapes are very
common in every army
and not considered worth
mentioning here. Though
the manner in which an
officer conducts himself
under such circumstances
is. So far the rebels have
been whipt in every attempt.
They have made to
drive us from the
Olden road. Their

Loss must have been very heavy as they were obliged to change our fortifications in the last late fight.

The last assault on the 2^d Corps was a desperate one. They made five charges with from four to seven lines of battle deep, and we had twelve pieces of cannon throwing grape and canister at a fearful rate. We are now building a new line of works ~~our part of~~ the line is about two miles from the rail road. Our fortifications will be finished tomorrow when we will be glad to see the Johnnies try them. Col. Dixon has been to Columbus and

went through. and
marched them through
the swamp into a corn
field where our 2^d Brigade
lay in line of Battle. They
did not discover their
mistake till the men got
up with before them.
(They were lying down) when
it was too late to escape.
Some squads were captured
and recaptured three and
four times. I have had
some pretty narrow escapes
as all must have who go
into battle. On the charge
on Friday a Johnny stiff-
out from behind a large
pine tree about four rods
ahead of me and drew
up his rifle to shoot me

Our regt is the largest
in the brigade and
has the reputation of
fighting well, which is
a very unusual thing for
dismounted Cavalry.
(But I am writing to
much of war, and no
thing else. If I could
only see you I could
tell you more in ten
minutes than I can
write in three hours.
When I can come home
is hard to tell but
it may not be long.
I will come as soon
as I can after the Col.
returns, if there is no
prospect of our leaving
this army. He will make
an effort to have us

Transferred to the western
 army, and we hope he
 will succeed. I would
 like to see you all
 very much and if
 nothing unusual happens
 it will not be long till
 this Campaign will
 be ended. I was sorry
 to hear that Astory
 was going to enlist.
 as it will be hard for
 him to get a position
 now that will pay him
 If I was in Columbus
 just now I think I could
 get him made Company
 of our regt. as there is
 one to be appointed and
 we have no man for
 the place. His rank and
 pay would be the same

1348 a.m. m. m. m.

as other Gov. 1st Lieut. \$130.

There will be a chaplain
wanting as soon as the regt
is full. Though I believe
the Col. has a man he
intends to or has recommended
all I know about him is
that he is a Methodist.
If I can do anything for
him I will You must be
careful of your health
as I want you to be well
fat when I come home
You must keep up your
spirits and take plenty
of out door exercise
I will send you lots of
kisses, hoping it will not
be long till I shall have
the pleasure of giving
instead of sucking.
I hope Her will suit.

and be of some help to
 Pa tell him that old Dave
 has been nearly dead, and
 is so poor now that he
 would not know him
 Boyd takes care of him
 but he does not like
 him and if he felt as he
 used to he would
 kill him. I hope he will
 get well for I think more
 of him than all the other
 horses I ever saw

Give my love to Pa
 Mother and Annie and
 keep lots for yourself
 write as often as you can

Your loving husband
 J. R. Clark