

Near Richmond June 5th

Dear Sister:

How can I express to you my _____ as well as grief, when I am compelled to tell you that I was not a participant in the action of last Saturdaym Henry was in it and they say he stood it like a veteran, so did all of my company, I had been down with the every day chills for the preceding six days and had a very slight one this day the battle took place. When the brigade marched off that morning, I had no idea they were going to have a battle but go off on pickette like they had been doing before, but in the evening about one or two o'clock I heard the room of musketry and artillery and had my chill on me then but as soon as I got over it so I could walk, I started to go to the Brigadde, and met a good many coming back saying that I could never find it and that it was [man?] dark any way[sic]. I lost a good many school mates in killed and wounded, Poor Sam Felder was killed also Mr. Head, who graduated in Penfield last summer. My friend Albert Butler was wounded I do not know to what extent. He belonged to the 2nd Fla. Regt. Two more of my classmates were wounded, but you have never heard me speak of them before my Regt. Lost 97 men killed, wounded and missing, twenty were killed Genl. Rains complimented the 23rd Ga. Regt. Very highly. They fought like they were raised on a battle field. They came from the upper portion of Georgia. Our company in it is from Floyd Co. They looked very shabby, but for all that "they fought like heroes". Every company in our Regt. lost men either in killed or wounded, except ours, which did not have a man scattered but the captains, whom a bullet grazed just a little in the back of the neck. Half of the _____ in the brigade were killed and another wounded.

I walked over the field the day after the battle and I tell you to see the dead man lying about was horrid. You can not[sic] form any idea of the sight until you see it. We took the Yankee [lamp?] and every tent, that I would go into, I see some poor fellow lying in there dead, who had crawled in out of the sun , I went in one I found a wounded yankee lying in there, I made him as comfortable as I could and sat down and had a long conversation with him, I could have gotten anything I wanted

but contented my self[sic] with taking a leather strap to put on my gun. The Yankees left kettles full of beans left on the fire, cooking, when our forces forces[sic] drove them out of the camp. They were well fixed up. Had oranges, lemons, pine apples[sic] put up in jars , also raspberries &c. &c.. I did not get any of these good things, though, I saw a good many of the soldiers with them. The dead men were lying so thickly among the trunks, that I could not eat, had I wished to have done so. It serves that the killed on both sides were about equal on that part of the field that I went over.

[Cannonade?] has commenced on our left this morning again, they are firing very rapidly too. Now something more important to me, I have not got but one shirt, and two pairs of socks will be a plenty.

We have not heard from home in three or four weeks. You know the last time I heard a sermon? It was the Sunday before I left home.

Good Bye

Love to all.

Your aff. Brother,

C.C. Anderson