

I have not gone to look for Henry's grave yet as I have not had an opportunity. I am afraid we will have to go on another such march as yesterday tomorrow or next day.

Camp near Richmond.

August 9<sup>th</sup>.

My Dear Sister.

I received your welcome letter yesterday evening. We had just returned from Malvern Hill. We went with the full expectation of getting into a fight, but to the surprise and gratification of all, the Enemy Evacuated the mill and [?] a hasty retreat back to their "Strategic base of operations" again, as soon as we went to make an attack on it, I do not think the men are very keen to get into a fight again, particularly since the experience they received, of Yankee valor, at the battle of Malvern. The Yankees report that same thing of their men, that it is very difficult to get them into a second fight. Our men fight as bravely in their succeeding fights, as they do in the first one, but they are not [?] anxious to get into it. We have no news of any importance up here, Fred has gone home on sick leave. His wife went with him, but Mrs. Colquitt still remains, Col. Colquitt is very well, has never been sick that I know of. [?] and Freddie Tarver also little Lizzie are all here. You have not spoken to me of sweet little Sussie for months, what has become of her, also Dollie? have they grown any? why don't Sissie and Adela write to me? Why Charlie don't send some word &c? why all this silence among the dear little ones? I am sorry to hear the Brother Marcus has not yet become reconciled to Henry's death. Before we left Yorktown I tried to make up my mind not to be surprised at any thing. I became perfectly reconciled to it as soon as the first [?] of grief was over. Henry's things were all lost, with the exception of two shirts, which I have in my knapsack now, One of them is checkered red flannel you sent to us the last time. He gave his pistol to me, about a week after the battle of "Seven Pines" and I gave it away to a [?], a clerk, who was in Gen. Rains' office at the time I was, when we went to part, His Yankee pants, he also gave away to some one. I do not know, two or three days after the fight, He put on that red checkered shirt and his blue pants immediately after Seven Pines fight, and fine as I ever saw him. Those men shoes you sent him the last time were also

lost. I could have secured his canteen and knapsack and sent to you, but had not means of sending them back to camp after the battle. I could not carry them with me, for we were on the march nearly two weeks after he was killed. When we started on the march, he took my blanket with him as it was a lighter blanket than his, and I think he threw it away just before we went on the field. It was a very warm day, and we had to do some very hard marching, and I think I heard [?] say he had a great mind to throw it away two [?]. He had it rolled up, the ends tied together and it strapped across his shoulder, the thickest part of the fold just covering the place where to bullet struck him. Probably he would have been living now, if he had only kept the blanket on, I know of two or three cases where the men were saved by their blanket, The Commissary of the Baker Fire Eaters” had his folded across his breast. – a fragment of a bomb struck it, went through the eight or ten folds of the blanket, coat and shirt and just bruised the skin a little, I think it knocked him breathless for awhile. I could mention several other cases of the same sort, where were it necessary. I do not know what became of his bible, I saw him reading it a day or two before we went on the march, but I do not know what he done with it. He has hardly ever said any thing to me on the subject of religion, but I think I can say with a truthful and honest heart, that he preserved his religious integrity better than any man I know in the Regiment or even in the Army. I cannot say though he was entirely innocent of any immoral action, but if he was guilty of any I do not know it. I watched him very closely during the whole time we were together, and I do not remember in a single instance, of seeing him yield to any temptation. He never made any display of religion, but you could see in all of his actions a disposition to act rightly and honestly. He talked so very little about his dying that I do not know whether, he thought he was going to be killed or not. but from his cheerful spirit when we were going into the fight, I do not think he expected to be killed.

I have not got the box yet though Lt. Roberts has gone to town to see if it has come. He has not returned yet, consequently I do not know whether it has come or not. I will write immediately on the receipt of it I hope the [practus?] has not spoiled.- they sell for seventy cents a dozen for little ones that you will not eat at home. We all buy them just as if they were worth so much a cart load. I would give any thing in the world if I could be at home to get some of the nice watermelons, peaches, and roasting ears, that

you are now luxuriating in, oh! how I long for the peace and comforts of home again. I would give any thing for Peace to spread her genial influence once more over the distracted country, what joyous tidings if we were told she had once more [re?] her gentle sway. I would not take one hundred thousands cash for such tidings. I am very sorry to hear of Joe's death, also Tom's They make then class mates in killed since the battle of Seven Pines, How I hope I may survive to read the history of the whole war from the beginning to the end &c. I need a pair of pants and coat very much, I'm nearly out so far as the pants are concerned. I will tell you in whose camp to send the clothes, should you send them. Direct your letters in care of Fred, who is now captain of this company. Good bye, Love to all. Tell the little girls to write to me. Brother Kit. C. A

If you send this by soldier car or express, direct it in care of Pulliam and Ceo. Richmond Va. Give Colquitt's Brigade and Divisions of Ripley.