

Swiggsville Ga. July 9th 1862

Dear Marcus.

I have delayed a long time, writing to you, because of a growing indisposition to write; and because, I understood you would be amongst us before now: and now I ^{am} moved to write, because I have an unmitigated sympathy with you & your brave family, in the death of your son Henry: whatever of sorrow, you & your family feel; and I know, the father & the mother, (to say nothing of sisters & brothers) of such a noble boy; must be almost heart rending, at the thought of the loss of their first born! and especially such a son as ^{my} Henry!! dutiful! prompt! faithful! and kind! a Christian!! almost a model son!!! I believe, if we take his age into the account, with the natural temper of mind, to turn every thing into temporary amusement & pastime; and to "turn the very dust into gold", — to bring good out of apparent evil! his like will scarcely be found: to sorrow on the account of the loss of such a son, is not to be rebuked: — & such a death; not by the enemy, but by a mistaken friend, who taking him to be an enemy fired & killed him! he being previously, slightly wounded, stoped to bind up the wound on his hand, that being done, he ran to overtake his company; just at that moment a S. Carolina Regt. came in sight, observed him running & taking him to be one of the enemy fired & killed him!! — alas how it afflicts my heart to write it; the information, is from a reliable source. — Father, Mother, Sisters & Brothers, Servants & Household, whatever sorrow

you feel, at account of this untimely death! & ^{so} melancholly
circumst; be assured, that I bear my full share: all
that I will add is, when you think of Henry Think of him
in Heaven & dry up your tears, as I try to dry mine.

I will say further that a friend & acquaintance of mine,
returned from the Company (Capt Barclay's) since the sad occurrence
& told me that his death had produced a saddened influence upon
all the Co. sick & well, & they all took it mournfully, & there
was not a smile upon any countenance in the Coy.

Wife has been quite sick for several weeks; indeed she
has not been well, since our State Convention in April;
& for some weeks past a good portion of the time confined
to bed: is now better & I hope getting well, will try to go to
Macon tomorrow if she is not worse

Wife directs me to say, that she rec^d. Adella's letter &
will answer it, when she gets well enough

Our crop (corn) is now looking midling well only,
but is now, (important time) wanting rain, & if rain does
not fall in a week or less, I fear it will be a short crop?

We are all except wife, & our black, in usual
health.

Wife joins me in love to you all

Your father

Henry Burr

P.S. Judson is improving in health fast, & if he continues
to improve, I suppose he will return to the Army

A. B.