

In The field near Atlanta Ga, 8th

164
(ms 222)

Honored Parents Brothers & Sister,

I have the privilage of once more writing you a few lines to inform you how I am getting along. I am in tolerable good health though dirty and tired laying around in the dirt.

The health of the men is as good as could be expected, Amos Carter is complaining some also Wmner Day is somewhat unwell.

Poe J. J. Sumner Perse Rusie Gilbert Dakin Snipes and some others are back at Rome & Marietta Hospitals sick Vincent Carter was here today he says Sumner Rusie Perse & Andrew are at Marietta they were improving some but will not be up for sometime

Samuel is the worst off
he has ~~departed~~, I have not
heard from Isaac for a long
time please inform me in
your next whether his folks
got any news from him exact
and where he is there is letters
comes here to him some directed
to Rome & some to Marietta but
as they hear the camp & they
are there they come here. we are
in the same position that we have
been for over two weeks there is
nothing unusual going on save
picket firing all the time we
have had 2 wounded within the
last 3 days one of which has
since died they were out of camp
K. I will give you a short descri-
ption of our works you hear often
of troops laying in the trenches
but probably have a fair idea of
what kind of things the trenches

care, our works are made generally by putting up logs and rails some 3 feet high then dig a ditch on the side that you aim to occupy the ditch is generally about 3 feet deep with a bench on the side next to the rails to step up on to shoot the dirt is thrown over and frequently a lot of dirt thrown up from the out side making a heavy bank of dirt to protect us against cannon balls, in some places it is dangerous to get out of the ditches and go back in the rear, it is not very much so where we are now we have our coil clothes stretched up along the edge of the ditch where we pass most of our time when there is any firing more than usual we have to get in the ditches we have a flury nearly every

night among the pickets.

we have had a lot of rain for the last two days making it quite disagreeable among the red clay, it has cleared up to day and the sun is shining but I think the rain is not over yet.

There is one thing about our fortifications that I have not mentioned that is sharp stakes set in front of the works we have two rows in our front, there is not often charges made on such works when it is known. I don't know how long we will have to live as we have been for the last month I hope not long but I don't know as the prospect is very good for to get out very soon, we hear through pretty reliable sources that our forces have cut the mason railroad if it can be held the rebels supplies will be cut off which may cause them to leave. I have written about every 3rd day for sometime I received a letter from home a few days since, I have nothing more to write at present write often your wellwishing son John B. Mills

In the field near Atlanta Ga 8th mo. 22nd/64 (August 22, 1864)

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