

Please send me a few stamps

Campaign front of Atlanta Ga.

Dear Steve,

Your kind letter of the 23rd came to hand this evening and I scarcely need to tell you that it was welcome for I have not heard from home directly since the latter part of June except getting a paper or two.

I had come to the conclusion that you had all forgotten me or else that the mails were to blame. I have never got any of mothers letters which I am very sorry for as nothing is looked for so anxiously as the mail and always feel disappointed if we do not get something in it.

I have recieved two letters from Will since he went to Nashville and one from John. John gave me no direction how to write to him or I would do so. The 1st Ohio has gone back to Nashville to wait until their time is out which will be about the first of Sept.

I saw Sam Smith Belden and others of the 93rd on Sunday. They are all about as usual. Capt Burts (?) is only a short distance from here and I see him frequently. He has improved greatly I think and is a very clever fellow. Coming into the line has taken the wiry edge off him.

I wrote Mother a description of our awful fight on the 20th. I see the papers are full of praise of glorious Hooker. I suppose you have heard that he has been relieved at his own request. It was because Howard was put in command of the Army of the Tennessee in McPherson's place and Hooker outranked him. We are very sorry to lose him but we would rather see him go than to submit to such gross injustice. I cannot tell why Sherman did such a thing as it was certainly to his interest to keep Hooker here for no Genl was more popular than he was throughout the Army.

We have been here eleven days lying behind our works which are about a thousand yds from those of the Johnnies. Both sides have out a picket line about three hundred yards from the works. And they keep up a constant fusilade at each other. Night or day it is the same but as both are in rifle pits they do not do very much damage. We have lost ten men by sharp shooters and our shelter tents are pretty well riddled by pieces of shell. The artillery blare away about four hours each day but have as yet done no damage but theirs give us some pretty bad scares as their shells drop in amongst us very unceremoniously very often. We had rather bad luck with our Cavalry under McCook the other day. They were in the rear of the Rebel Army and had captured a train of five hundred wagons and had started back when they were attacked and all captured but about two hundred of Browntow's men, but not before they had entirely destroyed the train.

Our Army is nearly entirely around the City and if the Rebs stay there much longer they will be gobbled sure.

So _____ it be If ever an Army was tired of a campaign this one is.

This being under fire all the time is about as exhausting on the men as marching and as we have no way to wash you may imagine we are not as clean as we might be. As it is getting dark I will have to close. The weather is extremely hot and sultry but the nights are comfortably cool.

I wrote to mother that I had a commission as Capt. Col McGroarity brought it out about a week after we came back from furlough. I suppose that the letter was lost with any quantity of others. Remember me to all at home. Tell Ashley that I would like to hear from him.

Yours truly
Bob