(No 1)

In line of Battle Near Lost Mountain 7th June 1864

My dear Sister Kate

I received yesterday the book and paper you sent me, but I have not received any letter from you. I hardly know what will be done we are quietly awaiting the approach of the enemy. I have been under some heavy fires of the enemy since I wrote you last artillery duelling and mine balls, and everything else, thrown at us to kill us, but thank God I have escaped everything. The yanks have been taught several good lessons since their "On to Atlanta" commenced. I will partly tell you of our trip since leaving Dalton.

Left Dalton May 6th and went out in line of battle, remained in this condition for two days. May 9th we were ordered (our section) to take position on Potato Hill, (a hill that was beyond and in front of our lines and was to be held by two Regiments of our Brigade, and our section) it could be surrounded by the enemy. it was a very high hill the Infantry hauled the two pieces up by hand about a hundred men to a piece after we got up there we commenced firing upon the enemy, did some splendid execution

The yankee Sharpshooters troubled us a little
It was rumoured amongst us, that if we held
the hill, Gen Johnston was going to give us
a Sixty days furlough — but that night about
12 o'clk, we had to evacuate as the enemy were
flanking us by Resaca we travelled all night
and all the next day. This flanking movements kept
up until the morning of the 14th and we brought
them to bay — our battery took position on a ridge
that ran parallel to their front one way and
at right angles the other way thus (7) the enemy
having a cross fire upon us, well we fought
here for three or four hours losing one man
Killed and seven wounded I was No 1
on my piece and I tell you honestly I
worked hard we withdrew from this position
we could not get one piece off as the firing
was so heavy we had to get it off that
night when the firing slackened a little.
as our detachment were bringing our
piece down the hill, that day — (we took
it down by hand) a young fellow
named Rea was run over by the gun
and crippled very badly In the fight
I accidentally ran a Priming wire
into the Cap of my knee, which disabled

(3)

me for a day or so but I am proud
to say I am [illegible] amongst the effective
strength of the Company after having been
told to go to the rear "with that leg"—
we did not go into the fight there any more
but on the evening of 16th we took position
in line with Tonings Division and that night
we evacuated Rebecca — fell back from there
to Calhoun and from Calhoun to Adairsville
and from there to New Hope Church, the evening
of the day that we arrived the heaviest kind
of fight took place our battery was not
[illegible] from
the enemy took effective on our battery
one shot almost took off two wheels off of a Caisson
and another hit one of our pieces and
came near dismounting it we moved
from there and took position further to the
rear on a hill but the most unfortunate
of all was it — was here as we were
moving off a stray shot hit Sgt King
our Orderly Sergeant and killed him
we moved next day from this position to a
hill more to the Right and Centre of
Hill and here of all the artillery
dwelling that I ever witnessed it was

(4)

ufor three or four days between our Battalion and the enemys artillery they did some splendid shooting no two ways about it

after leaving that position we were ordered to the extreme right and after that we moved from there to the centre or nearly centre of our Corps or Division I forget which after that we came here about two or three days ago, I hardly know what will take place

Send this letter to father I received ~~besides your package, from father a paper~~ of 3rd inst, I have not received any letter from you as yet, Remember me to Miss Williamson Miss Womack

I can hear nothing relative to the enemy

Look at the pages of you will find numbered so as to read it as I made a mistake, in writing on the wrong page

Your afft Bro

J. R. Cumming

In Haste

tell father not to publish this