

[8 Jan 1863]

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Tulahoma Tenn. - Jan 8th / 62

My dear wife - Another dreadful battle
and I am still safe - Poor Joe with
his leg & arm shattered left in the
Hospital at M. His leg had been amputa-
ted when I saw him & he was only
half conscious - The dear boy as we
heard at 2 P.M. the hour when our
Cavalry left was somewhat better
and we have some hope that he
may yet recover - He was treated by
the most skillful surgeons all of
whom felt great interest for him.

I was acting as Chief of Artillery
of the Division ^{on our extreme right} & to rear and on the
right when Elmer & Joe with 4
of my pieces were engaged in that
most bloody conflict - On the 31st
my Battery being ordered to the right
I withdrew to hallooed to move my
cannon & go with it - Cleburne
said if I could find one satisfactory
the Harker to pierce the Post I might
go - Major Hotchkiss agreed to act
& I went to Purkenidges Division
with the Battery - We were hotly
engaged several times but with
my usual good fortune escaped with
the loss of only one man & two horses

Major Hotchkiss was wounded on the
31st and I was again ordered to act
as Ch of Art, Belknap's Division -

As my Battery was at the same time returned
to the Division Head I could be sure of the
time with it & had no objection to act as
I wished to see the whole field.

No engagements of any consequence took
place that day, but on the next I was
ordered by Bragg to send 4 Pieces of my
Battery to report to him for duty on the
night - I again begged to go with them
but Belknap said he wanted me to
direct his other 14 Pieces & I should
stay with him - As the officer who
remained might be required to act
independently I was obliged to select
Wick G. to stay & to send Joe & Elmore -

They had a terrible fight lost 20 out
of 45 men in 30 minutes killed & wound-
ed & 14 horses - Wagon Hails Taylor
Went & F Randolph of your acquaintance
slightly wounded - also Matt Hale
W^m W^m Wilson's son severely but not
dangerously - I left Wick at Memphis
how to take care of Joe - see him buried
if he died & identify the place of burial
I have every confidence he will come back.

if he can get away - I gave the
Surgeon W. Abbott et of the Div. who
said he would remain with our
wounded fold to provide for Joe
& also fold to Dick to take care of him-
self - Also fold to Matt Hale -

Warren was well enough to come
off on the train next day, but an
accident to the cars kept him
there also. I then went out on the
road & from 11 at night till day marched
through despatching what I saw & so on
till sunset next day - How any lot of
men lay around dead & half-dead I
can't imagine - I went back to Herpi-
tals at Chattanooga about 1/2 dozen
this morning - I have not had a cold
through all this, & a night, sleep on the
frying battle field without fire -
Fargo's ground is no pleasant couch
yet I have tried it often, & I sleep
in the rain without knowing it -

I have had diarrhoea for 2 or 3
days from field work but don't feel
much the worse for it - I forgot to say
that your poor man Charles is here
trying to gain some intelligence as to poor
Joe's fate - He returns in the morning
as we will not have to have

anything under Dick or W. Acourt
get back - what a sad blow to his
poor father & mother - The dear fellow
conducted himself so nobly that he was
admired by every body -

We retreated 8 miles further
back to Etlice Springs day before yesterday
& returned here to day - Bragg thinks
of fighting again near here but the
army have rec'd such a shock that
they will not be likely to pursue

We captured 5,000 prisoners & 3
guns 10,000 ^{killed & wounded 15,000.} small arms & we
had a grand victory but for Bragg's
superiority to drive them from our
almost impregnable position in which
Lee & 1,000 others were lost - We lost
1 of our six pieces - The battery next to
Lee & Elmer lost 2. The only loss of Artillery
in our Army - The Gen lost some 7. Ran-
dolph's piece Countess.

I am now writing late at night to you
by your uncle Charles - Farewell my
darling - Love to all - Thank God with me
for the safety of your sweetheart -

You have no idea with how little pity I
looked on dead Yankees - No more feeling
for them than for dead dogs as I rode over
them

Fullerton

Jan 8/63

Miss F. C. C.

Miss J. C. C.

From J. C. C.

My Emily D. Sample

Gainstow

Clark Co

Ala -

W. C. F. Pollard



Tullahoma Tenn ---Jany 8th /62.

My dear Wife---

Another dreadful battle and I am yet safe -- Poor Joe with his leg & arm shattered left in the Hospital at M. His leg had been amputated when I saw him & he was only half conscious --- The dear boy as we heard at 2 P.M. the hour when our cavalry left was somewhat better and we have some hope that he may yet recover --- He was treated by the most skilful Surgeons all of whom felt great interest for him.

I was acting as Chief of Artillery of the Division on our extreme left & so was not on right when Elmore & Joe with 4 of my pieces were engaged in that most bloody conflict --- On the 31st my Battery being ordered to the right I entreated to be allowed to waive my rank & go with it ---Cleburne said if I could find one satisfactory to Hardee to fill the post I might go-- Majorⁿ Hotchkiss agreed to act & I went to Breckenridges Division with the Battery --- We were hotly engaged several times but with my usual good fortune escaped with the loss of only one man & two horses--- Major Hotchkiss was wounded on the 31st and I was again ordered to act as Ch. of Arty. Cleburnes Division ---As my Battery was at the same time returned to the Division I knew I could be much of the time with it & had no objection to act as I wished to see the whole field .

No engagement of any consequence took place that day, but on the next I was ordered by Bragg to send 4 Pieces of my Battery to report to him for duty on the right --- I again begged to go with them but Cleburne said he wanted me to direct his other 14 Pieces & I should stay with him --- As the officer who remained might be required to act independently I was obliged to select Dick G. to stay & to send Joe & Elmore ---

They had a terrible fight lost 20 out of 45 men in 30 minutes killed & wounded & 14 horses --- Warren Halls, Taylor Blunt & F. Randolph of your acquaintance slightly wounded --- Also Matt Hale, Mr. Wm. Wilson's son severely but not dangerously --- I left Dick at Murphreesboro to take care of Joe-- see him buried if he died & identify the place of burial. I have every confidence He will come back if he can get away --- I gave the Surgeon Dr. Avant^l Ch. of the Div. who said he would remain with our wounded gold to provide for Joe & also gold to Dick to take care of himself -- Also gold to Matt Hale--



Warren was well enough to come off on the train next day, but an accident to the cars kept him there also-- I then went out on the road & from 11 at night till day marched through drenching sleet & rain & so on till sunset next day ---How any set of men can stand such hardships I can't imagine ---I sent back to Hospital at Chattanooga about 1/2 dozen this morning I have not had a cold through all this, & a nights sleep on the freezing battle field without fires --- Frozen ground is no pleasant couch yet I have tried it often, & I sleep in the rain without knowing it---

I have had diarrheah for 2 or 3 days from fried pork but don't feel much the worse for it---I forgot to say that your poor uncle Charles is here trying to gain more intelligence as to poor Joe's fate --- He returns in the morning as we will not be able to learn anything until Dick or Dr. Avant get back --- What a sad blow to his poor father & mother --- The dear fellow conducted himself so nobly that he was admired by every body --

We retreated 8 miles further back to Estill Springs, day before yesterday & returned here to day -- Bragg thinks of fighting again near here but the enemy have rec'd such a shock that they will not be likely to pursue.

We captured 5,000 prisoners 31 Guns , 10,000 small arms, killed & wounded 15,000 and had a great victory but for Bragg's impatience to drive them our almost impregnable position in which Joe & 1,000 others were lost --- We lost 1 of our six pieces ---The battery next to Joe & Elmore lost 2 , the only loss of Arty. in our Army --^{The Gun lost was} F. Randolphs piece Countess .

I am now writing late at night to go by your Uncle Charles --- Farewell My darling -- Love to all--- Thank God with me for the safety of your sweetheart --

You have no idea with how little pity I looked on dead Yankees -- No more feeling for them than for dead dogs as I rode over them.

S--

Letter addressed

Mrs. Emily V. Semple

Gainstown, Clarke Co.

Ala.

Mr. C. T. Pollard.