

Richmond Oct 11th 1863

My Dear Sir

I am exceedingly sorry at the delay in sending you the enclosed letter. But as I said to you at Chickamauga I had no paper on which to write. Since leaving the Army I have been constantly in motion. The first act on reaching my journey end has been to write out the account I gave you of the last hours of your noble son. My acquaintance with him was short but I was placed in such a relation to him that I was probably enabled to learn more of his real character & disposition than could have been known in years, under ordinary circumstances. What struck me most ~~deep~~ in him was his entire freedom from selfishness & the generosity of his character. To love such a son in such a way must be a deep trial of your faith - God's grace alone can sustain you. May you always be sustained by the presence of the Holy Love the Comforter is the prayer of yours sincerely in the Gospel

Wm. C. Williams

My address is Savannah Ga. If this reaches you



please acknowledge it. I wish it as so many of
my letters have miscarried of late that I shall not
feel easy until I know it has ^{received} ~~reached~~ you

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Richmond Virginia

Oct 10th 1863

My Dear Sir

For the last fortnight I have been constantly in motion: I seize the first moment of rest to write you a few ^{lines} ~~minutes~~ in regard to the last hours of your lamented son, Thomas Hall

As you are aware the battle of Chickamauga took place on the 19th & 20 of Sept. The Regiment to which he was attached, was not engaged on the first day. On the second they were in the hottest of the fight. During that day I repeatedly heard his ^{bravery} ~~bravery~~ spoken of by the wounded men brought in. ~~The Private~~ ~~may have been~~ ~~who could attract notice~~
The courage of a Private, which could when surrounded by brave men, attract notice must have been of extraordinary character. He escaped unhurt in the early part of the day although a ball passed through his clothes. I had been requested by the surgeon to take down the names of the wounded the nature of their wounds report to him, so as to enable him to see

the most important was first. About dark I was told
that another wounded man had been brought in. I hastened
to see who it was. Truly was I pained when I found
it was your gallant son ^{with his thigh broken}. I reported his case im-
mediately to the surgeon. He came instantly upon
me and inquired of me. From that time I was constantly
with him. He was the most ^{painful &} trying circumstan-
ce as he exhibited the most unselfish dispo-
sition, some of the noblest characters I ever wit-
nessed. Immediately on seeing his condition
I offered him a stimulant; his answer was I know
it is scarce there are others who perhaps need it
more than I; give it to them. It had to be forced
on him. As soon as the surgeon saw him
he ordered him to be carried to the table that
he might have the benefit of the opinions of
the other surgeons as to what it was best to do.
Again he objected, saying "It was not his turn
there were others who perhaps needed it more."
He was eventually carried to the table. After a
careful examination the surgeons seem to enter-
tain very little hope of him as no reaction
took place. He was placed on a mattress

made us comfortable as the circumstances per-
mitted. One of our poor wounded men
was placed near him ^{in his moments} & fell on his bed. This was ter-
rible to him. I went remonstrated with the
other poor fellow. You soon interposed & secured
his wounded comrade. Again & again did this
occur until the other was removed to such a
distance as ^{it} was thought would prevent his again
disturbing any one. Again however, how, I can
not tell, he reached the bed. This time I
remonstrated most ^{earnestly} ~~warmly~~ when your gene-
rous son was found his ~~own~~ apologist.

On Tuesday ~~Tuesday~~ it was found that mato-
fication had commenced. On Wednesday morn-
ing I felt it to be my duty to communicate
to him his condition. He received it very
calmly & seemed entirely prepared for it. He said
he thought he truly repented of his sins & that
he put his faith in Christ. The latter he
repeated over a second time. I then knelt by
him & committed ^{him} to the care of ^{our} covenant keep-
ing God, in prayer. He lingered through the
day night. The next morning he seemed

very restless. I conversed with him then proposed to
pray for him. He expired when I had closed he rested
in my arms, in a few moments said your prayer
seems to have been answered, already, for other
quarters of an hour he never moved. In a few
hours after he trust he fell asleep in Jesus.
Thus died another victim of this cruel water
one who gave promise of a bright future
one of whom a parent might justly be proud
May God sustain you in this trying by his
grace, under this heavy affliction.

Very sincerely yours in the
bonds of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ



Wm Williams
Acting Chaplain 24th Me
Regiment

Col. Rolling Hill
Montgomery

Richmond Virginia
Oct 10th 1863

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took place. He was placed on a mattress

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& made as comfortable as the circumstances permitted.

One of our poor wounded men was placed near him & ~~in his movements~~ fell on his bed. This was terrible to him. I went & remonstrated with the other poor fellow. Your son interposed & excused his wounded comrade. Again & again did this occur until the other was removed to such a distance as it was thought would prevent his again disturbing any one. Again however how I can not tell, he reached the bed. This time I remonstrated most earnestly warmly when your generous son was found his warm apologist.

On Tuesday ~~Tuesday~~ it was found that morification had commenced. On Wednesday morning I felt it to be my duty to communicate to him his condition. He received it very calmly & seemed entirely prepared for it. He said he thought he truly repented of his sins that he put his faith in Christ - The latter he repeated over a second time. I then knelt by him & committed ^{him} to the care of ^{our} covenant keeping God, in prayer. He lingered through the day & night. The next morning he seemed

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May God sustain you ~~in this trying~~ by his grace under this heavy affliction.

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