

No<sup>a</sup> Pos 24<sup>th</sup> alafigt  
In the Field July 1<sup>st</sup> 1864

My Dear Father

I returned late last night from a twenty four hours tour of picket duty & this morning ~~feel tired~~ sleepy & in a very bad condition to write, but still I have concluded to make the effort & do the best I can. We had a tolerably good time on picket comparatively speaking. The bullets from the Yankee Sharpshooters were flying around us all the while, but fortunately my body was lucky. I took a shot at a Yankee about eight hundred yds & either killed or wounded him. We saw them carry him off on a litter.

Our boys wounded several of them during the day. We have remained in our present position longer than we have in any since we left Dalton. The enemy are strongly entrenched in our front. We

can see them any distinctly from our  
lines. Occasionally an artillery duel is  
gotten between the Gatling's & then we have  
to "lie low & keep quiet". Day before yesterday  
Sherman sent in a flag of truce to obtain  
permission to bury his dead in front of  
Hardie's ~~works~~ <sup>works</sup> which was granted.  
The truce lasted from 10 am. till 4 P.M.  
I went out to the front during the time  
& lookt at the Yankee bury their dead.  
It was very interesting to listen at the  
conversation between the Yankee & our  
men. Their men looked as ragged and  
dirty as our own. The Yankee would  
trade any thing they had for Tobacco  
& brick. trade was kept up all the  
while. The Yankee dead looked very  
badly. They were as black as the  
face on a negro. Their killed & wounded  
in Hardie's front is supposed to be 2500  
or 3000. If they would only keep

on butting up against our lines  
we could soon dispose of them all  
in the same way. It is rumored  
that Sherman will not make a gen-  
eral engagement until he receives  
an reinforcement. Perhaps that may  
be true. The position of things has  
not materially changed on our  
front now for several days.

I received a letter from you yesterday  
dated 20 Ultima & which I assure you was  
perused with much interest. I was  
very glad to hear that Willie had gotten  
well. I had really been uneasy about  
her some I heard there was a probability  
of her having the Whooping Cough. Tell  
her & Maggie that Pa loves them a great  
deal & they must be pretty & smart &  
do every thing that Ma tells them. I  
was very much surprised to hear that  
Old Mr Meadow was coming. I suppose

When some he asks to send it  
confront with well. but I hope  
I will have in as short time I

He wanted come on to comfort him  
in his old age. Old Jethu Jones is  
standing the Campaign remarkably well  
this time. He carries some Shoe Makers  
tools with him & when he has nothing  
else to do he mends the boys shoes.  
Nesbit is very well. He was shooting  
at Ganken all day yesterday but I  
dont think he damaged them much.  
Bobby Coleman Hells & all the Boys  
are well. So Jims has gotten home  
at last. I know you all were  
glad to see him. Tell him that  
he must be pensive & get well as soon  
as possible. I would be glad to  
hear from him when he gets able to write.  
My health is tolerably good, but the Red  
bugs have nearly eaten me up. They  
are worse than I ever saw them.

My love to Mother & all I, to the dear  
little ones. God Bless you. Good Bye  
Your devoted  
Newton

Hd. Qrs. 24th Ala. Regt.  
In the Field, July 1st, 1864.

My dear Bettie:

I returned late last night from a twenty four hours tour of picket duty & this morning feel tired, sleepy, & in a very bad condition to write, but still I have concluded to make the effort & do the best I can. We had a tolerably good time on picket comparatively speaking. The bullets from the Yankee Sharp Shooters were flying around us all the while, but fortunately no body was hurt. I took a shot at a Yankee about eight hundred yds. & either killed or wounded him. We saw them carry him off on a litter. Our boys wounded several of them during the day. We have remained in our present position longer than we have in any since we left Dalton. The enemy are strongly entrenched in our front. We can see them very distinctly from our lines. Occasionally an Artillery duel is gotten between the Batteries & then we have to "lye & keep quiet". Day before yesterday Sherman sent in a Flag of truce to obtain permission to bury his dead in front of Hardee's Corps which was granted. The truce lasted from 10 A.M. till 4 P.M. I went out to the front during the time & looked at the Yanks bury their dead. It was very interesting to listen at the conversation between the Yanks & our men. Their men looked as ragged and dirty as our men. The Yanks would trade any thing they had for Tobacco. A brick trade was kept up all the while. The Yankee dead looked very badly. They were as black in the face as a negro. Their killed & wounded in Hardee's front is supposed to be 2500 or 3000. If they would only keep on butting up against our lines we could soon dispose of them all in the same way. It is rumored that Sherman will not make a general engagement until he receives reinforcements. Perhaps that may be true. The position of things have not materially changed in our front now for several days.

I received a letter from you yesterday dated 20 ultimo & which I assure you were pursued with much interest. I was very glad to hear that Willie had gotten well. I had really been uneasy about her since I heard there was a probability of her having the whooping cough. Tell her & Maggie that Pa loves them a great deal & they must be pretty & smart & do every thing that Ma tells them. I was very much surprised to hear that old Mr. Meadows was married. I suppose he wanted some one to comfort him in his old age. Old Jephtha Jones is standing the campaign remarkable well this time. He carries some Shoe Maker's tools with him & when he has nothing else to do he mends the boys shoes.

Newt is very well. He was shooting at Yankees all day yesterday but I don't think he damaged them much. Billy Coleman Wells & all the Boys are well. So Jim has gotten home at last. I know you were all glad to see him. Tell him that he must be prudent & get well as soon as possible. I would be glad to hear from him when he gets able to write. My health is tolerably good, but the Red Bugs have nearly eaten me up. They are worse than I ever saw them.

My love to Mother & all & to the dear little ones.  
God Bless You. Good-Bye. Your Devoted  
Newton.