

W<sup>a</sup> On 24<sup>th</sup> Ala Regt  
In the Field July 11<sup>th</sup> 1864

My Dear Pettie

I have just met with  
an opportunity of sending a note by a  
friend who is going to the war. He  
promised me, that if I would make  
it "short" he would wait for me to  
write it. We are now in line of  
battle on the east side of the Chattahoochee  
River & about five miles from Atlanta.  
We crossed the River night before last.  
& are now in position awaiting the  
approach of the enemy. This is the  
first time since we left Dalton  
when I really thought a general  
engagement imminent. I cer-  
tainly think so now. We  
have been outmarching for the  
last two months before the enemy  
& now we have reached a position

from which a retreat would be, not  
only impracticable, but unsafe for the  
further occupation of Atlanta. I  
believe, that as soon as the Yankee  
Army crosses the River, Gen Johnston  
will advance upon them & force  
them into a fight. It is the  
opinion of every one that we will  
fight here & I think the opinion  
correct notwithstanding we have  
have not been officially notified  
of that fact. Every preparation is  
being made for a battle & when it  
does come, it will be the greatest  
battle of the war. The salvation  
of the South in a great measure  
depends upon its issue. I hope  
& pray that the God of battles will  
be with us & give us the Victory  
I wrote you some four or five  
days ago since which time

nothing of interest has occurred.  
I will write you again the first  
opportunity. I have not time  
to write you a long letter. My  
friend is impatient. Heady  
Carrionadery is going on at  
the front & he is anxious to  
get to the rear. Meek is very  
well. My love to Mother &  
all the family. Kps the dear  
little ones for Pa.

May kind Heaven bless  
& keep you in the prayer of your  
devoted Husband -  
Horton -

Hd. Qrs. 24th Ala. Regt.  
In the Field July 11, 1864.

My dear Bettie:

I have just met with an opportunity of sending a note by a friend who is going to the rear. He promised me that if I would make it "short" he would wait for me to write it. We are now in line of battle on the east side of the Chattahoochee River & about five miles from Atlanta. We crossed the River night before last & are now in position awaiting the approach of the enemy. This is the first time since we left Dalton when I really thought a general engagement imminent. I certainly think so now. We have been retreating for the last two months before the enemy & now we have reached a position from which a retreat would be not only impolitic but unsafe for the further occupation of Atlanta. I believe that as soon as the Yankee Army crosses the River, Gen. Johnston will advance upon them & force them into a fight. It is the opinion of every one that we will fight here & I think the opinion correct notwithstanding we have not been officially notified of that fact. Every preparation is being made for a battle & when it does come, it will be the greatest battle of the War. The salvation of the South is a great measure depends upon its issue. I hope & pray that the God of battles will be with us & give us the Victory. I wrote you some four or five days ago since which time nothing of interest has occurred. I will write you again the first opportunity. I have not time to write you a long letter. My friend is impatient. Heavy cannonading is going on at the front & he is anxious to get to the rear. Newt is very well. My love to Mother & all the family. Kiss the dear little ones for Pa.

May kind Heaven bless & keep you is the prayer of your devoted Husband.

Newton.