

No. 2. Col. 2d Ala Regt
In the Field Sept 8th 1864

My Dear Sister

Here we are, all lying, quietly, resting upon our arms & recuperating from the effects of the arduous toil & labor of the past few days. The Yankees have all left our front & retreated back to Atlanta. All is still & quiet. Not the sound of a gun is to be heard & one could almost flatter himself that there was no war now being waged, as he travels around did he not see its indelible marks staring him in the face every step he takes in the deserted mansion, desolated field, & the general sack & ruin of every thing that once adorned the home of luxury & wealth, plenty & peace. Oh the misery & suffering that follows in the wake of the invading hordes of the enemy. The burning tear of the bereaved widow & the piteous cry of distressed children who are driven penniless

wanderers & exiles from their once happy
homes, greet your name at every turn
The Enemy after ascertaining that he
could not advance any further without
giving us battle returned to Atlanta
tearing up the Rail Road as they went
This fall of Atlanta is a great blow to us
equal to that of Vicksburg. Yet still we
should not be discouraged. Let us live
in hope believing that God will in
His own good time give success to our
arms & grant us peace. It is im-
possible to tell how long things will
remain quiet as they are now. It is
not reasonable however to suppose
that it will be very long. The greater
portion of our army is still here about
Lovejoy Station. Part of it has gone
up to Jonesborough. News is very

at present. He came very near giving
out on our late marches. I carried
his blanket for him to keep him from
throwing it away. James Dotson took
sick & has been sent to the Hospital.
Billy Coleman is well. Gen Edward
Johnson of the Va. Army is now comm-
anding our Division. Gen Anderson
was wounded at Jonesborough on the 31st.
Yesterday Gen Lee who is commanding our
Corps ordered out our Division to make
us a speech & just as the Division was
formed & ready for him to begin the rain
began to fall in perfect torrents, so he
merely took of his hat gave us a bow
& retired amidst the shouts & yells
of the Soldiers. The Soldiers do not
like him at all. Very few have any
confidence in him as a Commander.

He has been in two fights under him
& got whipped both times. One on the
28th July & the other on the 31st August.
He attributes all the blame of defeat to
the troops & they to him. He certainly
needs another Corps Commander. The men
will never fight with any degree of
confidence so long as he is in command.
He had several mails burnt up when
Atlanta was evacuated & I fear that
some of my letters from home were
among the lot. I am certain that one
I wrote to you was lost. Our mail
arrangements are very much disturbed
yet & letters come very irregularly. I
am getting anxious to hear from you
& expect you & Mother have been very
unhappy about me. I try to write
you every opportunity but it often

happens that several days will
elapse without any occurring.
Nunt & I will both need clothes
before a great while. We have
been so long exposed to the weather
& sitting & sleeping on the ground
that every thing we have is nearly
worn out. My old over coat is "gone
up" completely. I wrote you some time ago
that Isaac took sick & was sent off to
the hospital & that I was fearful that
he would die. Much to my surprise he
came back a few days before we left
Atlanta nearly well but still very
weak & feeble & when it was ascertained
that we intended leaving there, the
Surgeon sent off on the train to the
Hospital to remain until he was
stronger & better able to march. I
did intend to send him home as

as soon as he was able to travel well.
I do not know where he is now
but suppose he will return as
soon as he gets entirely well.

I understand that the Yankees have all
left with Miss & gone across the Miss.
River. If that be the case you will
all be greatly relieved. I wrote to
her several days ago but I am
fearful that my letter never got
through so you can tell her if she
does not receive it that it is not
my fault. If we remain quiet very
long I will write to Mag. It has
commenced to rain so I will have
to bring my letter to a close.

Remember me with love to Mother &
all the family. Tell both Willie &
Maggie how my Pa. May Heaven
bless you. Good By.
Your devoted husband
Newton

Hd. Qrs. 24th Ala. Regt.
In the Field, Sept. 8th, 1864.

My Dear Bettie:

Here we are all lying quietly resting upon our oars & recuperating from the effects of the arduous toil & labor of the past few days. The Yankees have all left our front & retreated back to Atlanta. All is still & quiet, not the sound of a gun is to be heard & one could almost flatter himself that there was no war now being evaged, as he travels around did he not see its indellible marks starring him in the face every step he takes in the deserted mansion, desolated field, & the general rack & ruin of everything that once adorned the home of luxury & wealth plenty & peace. Oh the misery & suffering that follows in the wake of the invading hordes of the enemy. The burning tear of the bereaved widow & the pitious cry of destressed children who are driven pennyless wanderous & exiles from their once happy homes, greet your ears at every town. The Enemy after ascertaining that he could not advance any further without giving in battle returned to Atlanta tearing up the Rail Road as they went. The fall of Atlanta is a great blow to us equal to that of Vicksburg, but still we should not be discouraged. Let us live in hope believing that God will in His own good time give success to our arms & grant us peace. It is impossible to tell how long things will remain quiet as they are now. It is not reasonable however to suppose that it will be very long. The greater portion of our Army is still here above Lovejoy Station. Part of it has gone up to Jonesborough.

Newt is very at present. He came very near giving out on our late marches. I carried his blanket for him to keep him from throwing it away. James Dotson took sick & has been sent to the Hospital. Billy Coleman is well. Gen. Edward Johnson of the Va. Army is now commanding our Division. Gen. Anderson was wounded at Jonesborough on the 31st. Yesterday Gen. Lee who is commanding our Corps ordered out our Division to make us a speech & just as the Division was formed & ready for him to begin, the rain began to fall in perfect torrents, so he merely took off his hat gave us a bow & retired amidst the shouts & yells of the Soldiers. The Soldiers do not like him at all. Very few have any confidence in him as a Commander. We have been in two fights under him & got whiped both times. One on the 28th July & the other on the 31st August. He attributes all the blame of defeat to the troops & they to him. We certainly need another Corps Commander. The men will never fight with any degree of confidence so long as he is in command.

We had several mails burnt up when Atlanta was evacuated & I fear that some of my letters from home were among the loss. I am certain that one I wrote to you was lost. Our mail arrangements are very much disturbed yet & letters come very irregular. I am getting anxious to hear from you, I expect Mother & you have been very uneasy about me. I try to ~~make~~ write you every opportunity but it often happens that several days will elapse without any occuring.

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Newt & I will both need clothes before a great while. We have been so long exposed to the weather & sitting & sleeping on the ground that every thing we have is nearly worn out. My old over coat is "gone up" completely. I wrote you some time ago that Isaac took sick & was sent off to the hospital & that I was fearful that he would die. Much to my surprise he came back a few days before we left Atlanta nearly well but still very weak & feeble & when it was ascertained that we intended having there, The Surgeon sent off on the train to the Hospital to remain until he was stronger & better able to march. I did intend to send him home as soon as he was able to travel well. I do not know where he is now but suppose he will return as soon as he gets entirely well.

I understand that the Yankees have all left North Miss. & gone across the Miss. River. If that be the case you will all be greatly relieved. I wrote to Vic several days ago, but I am fearful that my letter never got through so you can tell her if she does not receive it that it is not my fault. If we remain quiet very long, I will write to Mag. It has commenced to rain so I will have to bring my letter to a close.

Remember me with love to Mother & all the family. Tell little Willie & Maggie howdy for Pa. May Heaven bless you.
Good-Bye.

Your devoted Husband,
Newton.