

MACK TO NAN

Spotsylvania Co Va May 18th 1864

Nan I will write you a few lines this morning but I cant tell when I Can Send it to you well Nan we expect to have a fight in a few days with the Johnneys. they are in hearing of us a bout 1/2 mile from here there were about 60 thousand troops Came out here yesterday of our own boys to meet the dads we made a heavy breast work last knight we expected them to pich in to us but they did not Come. we have got Lees army all nearly Surroundid this is the most God forsaken place that ever humanlook on it is a pefect willderness of Scrubby pine and Cedar. the old farmes are all growing up with them there are not a fence to be seen not a house but what has been evacuated and left. O Nan you dont nor cannot realize any thing about it. I thought that I could think Something near what was ment but I did not think any thing about it. Nan Elias Fullerton and Cylvester Ausbun is both killed they were killed in the battle of the willderness. John Snider was wounded in the hand hank Smith was wounded in the foot. they are at the hospital in fredricks burgh. I have Seen lots of our Woodbridge boys here. we are all well and hartly George Beard and Paul fifield was badly wounded. Paul had bothe legs Shot I heard that he had to have one Cut off George Beard was Shot in the back. byron Lewis Byron Bryan Mat fifield Curt and Jim todd mark Hylliard and more than a dozen others that I am aquainted with are here. Nan I will Stope writing for to day I dont know when I Can Send this out as there are not male leaves here now only when Some private man is going out of the front I like to be a Soldier bully I have not home sick any yet I dont think that I will be, but I tell you it is more pleasant at home with my folks than it is here.

Well Nan it is now about 3 oclock P.M. all is Still and quiet except picket and skirmish fireing which is kept up all the time. well Nan I have just finished a letter to bill and bell I have not one partly rote to Pap and mother I thought this morning that I would not finish this to day but the news came to us that we Could Send letter out from here this afternoon So every fellow is as it as hard as he can. Nan I have nothing much of importance to right only we have plenty to eat and that is better than we had at Hillsdale or even at Washington City. Nan I will Stop for this time. you must right to me Soon and often I have not got any letter from you or from home Since I enlisted. the male Came in to day for this Regt but not any thing for any of us. Nan remember and pray for me and I will prary for my Self and you. Nan I can live right here as well yes and I have tried to live better than I ever did when I was at home. Nan keep up good cheer and with me trust in our great Redeamer. trust him for grace and trust in him for Eternal life and trust in him that we may join glad hands together in this world again. I feel that we will. give my love to all the friends in Stubenville tell Mr Abbott to write to me. nomore at present I will give you a new direction to right to me. from Mc to Nan

Henry Mc Ewing.
Washington D.C.
2nd Mich Infantry
in care of E.A. Sherman
Lieutenant

Nan right on the back of the letter as plain as possible for they have so many to look over they may not read it right and then it would get misplaced and I would not get it. Nan right home often as you Can. Nan there is no Chance of getting any pictures taken here for we are a long way from any place.

Note: This letter was written Wednesday, May 18, 1864, from Spotsylvania, Va., about 100 miles south of Washington. The Woodbridge boys are on the edge of

a fight in about two weeks from the time they left Hillsdale. Letter posted May 24.

AEE

Note: Elias Fullerton and Sylvester Osborn [“Ausburn”] were both in Company B of the Michigan Sharpshooters and were killed on May 12 at the Battle of Spotsylvania Courth House. Mark Hilliard, who was part of the Michigan 27th Infantry, was killed in the same battle.

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