By very dear wife,

At length, after three weeks constant marching,
crossing rivers, fighting, skirmishing, watching and artillery firing,
often capturing Forrest's Hill, Dalton, Resaca (fighting a battle at the latter place) and then moving eight miles capturing Rome and

Thomson, we have gone into camp to rest a few days. So I will now

avow myself of the first opportunity to write more freely to my own dear

one. It has been a great source of comfort to me that I could

not send you a letter regularly as of yore, well knowing that

you would be full of anxiety, you must not think that one of

the 97th have been engaged with the enemy all the time, in in-

cursion so large as ours. The Division, Brigades and regiments

only fight by shifts, while the rest are always ready, if needed in

supporting distance. I have just been reading a long letter in the loci,

from someone giving an account of our investment of Dalton which

is very full and accurate, a much more satisfying account

than any one officer could give, since each one had his place in

the line and even known but little of what is going on at other points

especially when our line was some 10 miles in length. I hope you

will get that letter regularly while the campaign continues, as it is the

most complete and reliable in its details. Well I have seen what I

hope to the highest.
covered strong military positions, but I have never yet seen anything to compare with the works of the Rebels at Dalton.

Nothing man is almost impregnable while every available joint was carefully provided of substantial fortifications. General Sherman found an inlet and took advantage of it and followed up his advantage to such an extent that Mr. Lee had to abandon their chosen position with falling back out of their works to fight us on even terms. Previous to our occupation of Dalton we held a position on the crest of Rocky Face Mountain, and on the 9th together with Hardee's Brigade attempted to change them off it, but found it very much to our personal comfort to get back as fast as possible, and threw up breast works, where it was so thick a man could hardly shoot. Here we remained two days and nights.

On the morning of the 13th we learned of the news from our corps moved around the works and marched into town. From there our corps moved around the works and marched into town. From there we moved right on until we again formed a junction with the rest of the army near Reserve. Here we came upon the enemy in force, the enemy in front of the following day was spent in getting into position and feeling the enemy's lines. I never heard through such works in my life. I had charge of the skirmish line a half the time, in shifting around through the breach would lost my command cape, but was glad enough to get off that well. On the morning of the 14th we found the enemy's lines and drove them back across into their breast works thrown up the night before and held them there while Hooker commanding on the left would turn their flank, we never had them as
we thought, in a very light place nearly surrounded, on the 15th, which was
early day, it looked there would be fighting, but we had taken their first line
of works and were so strong that firing was kept up almost without cessation
all day from both sides, we continued to bomb each a battery of nine until
then that the next day when we passed through, large trees 40 feet
high were literally shelled to pieces with bullets. The ground for some
distance back of their works was full of litter into which each man had
sprung in the ground to hide himself from our fire, not daring to lift his
head. The river was on the south side of them but they had one point for crossing so
strongly fortified as to be impossible for us to take it. But further, we would
have got rid of the whole army. They entrenched auxiliary right, moving
moving we pressed eight forward after them stopping an hour or two in
Keesas, here I got the first view of Long. Sherman. He is very different
from what I expected, he built a beard and hungry look. But such are
"dangerous" men. At least the uncle thinks so. Thomas is the finest looking
General we have. We all like Grant. Howard very much, I reckon also
behaves very well. Here our intrepid host left us for "home;" sweet home! he
started the moving the fight commenced, but Wayne shamed him out
of it. I went a vote by him to you once you get in?

From Keesas our works took the advance, about 3 miles above Kingston. The
enemy made considerable resistance at a place called Adairville, after
another barrage had exhausted their ammunition we went to the point
to relieve them just before dark. This was about the hottest place
I have been in. We kept up the firing until after dark and then
remained on the ground until morning. I have been very careful, I don’t use up my strength unnecessarily. Only when duty absolutely requires it. While I have a sent to bring me to my country,
I never for a moment forget that there are many dear ones at home
who have claims upon my life, free, as strong as in the wild.

At Kingston the enemy made but feeble resistance and we swept
down through the deserted streets like a hurricane. This is the point
where the main supply from Rome connects with the main road to Atlanta
and resistance reported the enemy intended to make another stand here.

Oh, the scene was grand! We have now passed into the mountain
forests of North Georgia in the open mountain country which
continues favorably with that through which we have passed. I am
for some very times of the incomparable mountains. Though it is
getting quite warm, we are not suffering it. I am sure Got of
New letters have reached me, they are pretty lookout. They say, restering, I received the copy
of the Atlanta you sent me. I am glad to meet people with it. I am sure the picture
of the returns. It is indeed a source of joy and pride to me. I know that while I am
here fighting, the names of our brave soldiers will be a wonder. I feel no
pain. The scenes of our camp are also worth mentioning. I am sure our brave soldiers
are quite as brave as they were through the last winter. I am sure the
morning, the day. I am sure that we are in a better position than ever before.

I am sure our brave soldiers, the brave, are with us. Our brave soldiers,
and I am sure that we are with

Great communications from Grant. I don’t know when he is going to

I am sure that I got back with all my things and. I am

I saw quite a curios on Rock’s for mountain the 5th. The crowd executed
shorts, growing wild in great abundance, also. I am sure that is called the

things. I am sure that I got back with all my things.