

Quincy Jan 21 Hanover Co Va. 1862  
U. S. McCann Esq

Dear old friend I am idle this evening for the first since leaving Camp Randall we have done more marching & fighting than any new Regt that ever left the state now this is no bragging it is admitted by the old veterans we marched from Bell Plain on the 13th to the Rapid to Middleburg & from there to Spotsylvania the first day & night with 60 rounds & three days rations we went to the front next morning and an onward march 2 days then a tactical on a great flank movement to force Lee out of his strong fortified position we started at midnight and about that time I got up & day driving forward from the bridge & taking a position in the South bank where we fortified till it was day a ball in the meantime Lee fell back to the North some one following him up found him fortified on both banks so we Grant did not propose to go by that sort but it was necessary to make a demonstration to the Rebels at night our plan was to creep the Peninsula and the 36<sup>th</sup> division to support a battery sent across soon under the first real fire we were very tired & I think a majority of the boys sleep in all the shells were screeching & screaming through the air well they were dispersed by a charge by a part of our Corps & next morning we were in a new position held our position & duty I had a wonderful time behaving well I am sorry to say that I do not know of our

in the shoulder nothing serious he is doing  
well & will soon be well. Well we then  
crossed the river & in the mean time  
the left wing had dropped down & crossed the other  
Pamunkey an hour we joined it next day after a  
night's march just in time to get a position  
before the enemy. We got up on Cavalry drove  
the advance back when we advanced & took  
a position at the extreme front where we  
lay one night under the bullets of the sharp  
shooters next morning we advanced across a  
stream & entrenched amid a sharp fire from  
the enemy & held it until the afternoon  
when we were ordered to charge a line of rifle  
pits that was about 600 yds in our front  
supported by <sup>the 11th</sup> <sup>regiment</sup> of  
gallant still all done 4 Companies of the  
right wing were repulsed after being badly  
cut up our wing was more fortunate we took  
the pits without great loss we had 2 men  
slightly wounded in our column held our  
ground until dark when we were ordered  
to fall back & move to the left of Army  
we marched <sup>all night</sup> <sup>at night</sup> halting near the  
place <sup>at night</sup> <sup>at night</sup> until dark when we were moved  
& massed in a ravine where we lay all night  
in a drizzling rain without tent & at day  
were ordered to charge the enemy's works about  
1000 yds in our front we were the fifth line  
of battle when we started the ground over  
which we moved was sally by Artillery and  
snipers when we got up near the works the  
old veterans had sifted through until  
we were in the front without any

at night but the weather very strong  
just across a swamp the soldiers  
we were surprised with great loss we lost  
our Colonel Kild and Adjutant wounded we  
have lost in the 2 charges in killed & wounded  
250. Arthur Stephen & Columbus Miller came  
out all night. Capt. W. Parson severely wounded  
in the shoulder. Chas. Esmatyger has  
a wound above the elbow Adams wounded  
at water badly in shoulder Lewis Pratt  
badly in hip <sup>John Rained in side</sup> those are all injured from  
Chippewa County we have lost 22 men  
& killed & wounded from our Co. I cannot  
see how I escaped I was in the rear of  
the left wing of the Co & more than  
half of it in with killed & wounded  
boys standing their ground until they  
were ordered to fall back & I believe  
they would have stood until they were  
all cut down had they not been ordered back  
the Chippewa boys are all first rate  
got so far till we McEwan that  
she is a big prize of his boys she  
thought they were better than I can  
more all right but Stephen would  
kill both the other boys I could say  
he is tough & fat will this thing has  
got down to a knife he will not  
fight any more in the open field  
we fortify as customary we are now  
about 7 miles from Rock road on  
Fitz John Porters old battle field  
our front lines about 30 or 40 rods

