

Belford N.C. May 25th - 1864

dear son

I was at Lenoirburg last Saturday and mailed a letter to you from that place, while there I saw an account, in the Confederate, of a battle that had been fought near Bermuda Hundred and that Wiley, Martin & Blingman's Brigades, were engaged, and that the enemy had been attacked in his entrenchments and driven from them and that our loss was considerable supposed to be about 500 killed and wounded this gave us considerable uneasiness, I came home and went to Rock Mount Monday, went by Nashville and took Bobbie with me, I went there for the purpose of telegraphing to Petersburg for a list of Casualties in Co. B., but I could not get any despatch from there as there was so much telegraphing going on in the Military department, so I came home without having any thing, yesterday I rec^d your letter which gave universal joy to all the friends & relatives in this neighborhood, of the boys, in your Co. to learn that no body was hurt

from this vicinity, I was truly glad to perceive
from your letter, that you attributed your pres-
ervation to the protecting care of Divine Providence,
therefore I hope you will continue to ever look to him
for safety and protection at all times, not only
for the ~~welfare~~^{protection} of your person from dangers, but
to preserve you from sin, and all evil communi-
cations, and to prepare you for a better world,
when life is over in this world, it is the lot of
all men to die whether they die in the Army
or at home, now can't escape, so it is highly
important, that all should be ready when the
Summons comes. I think the war will be
closed around Richmond, Grant seems to
be disposed to fight it out there.

I guess you will be greatly grieved when
inform you that our friends W. H. Murray &
Isaac Fox were both killed in one of the
late battles in Virginia, also Jack Powell
and Capt James Harris of Nashville,
nearly all of John Drake Co. were captured,

I believe John was sick and not in the battle
Lieut Dale was captured, I do not know the
fate of Lieut Rev. Barrett, I don't seem to think
he was killed, but I hope not. I expect to go
to Louisburg to-morrow with Rich to see
Dr Redwood, who is the Chief Surgeon in
the 5th Congregⁿ board, ~~afflicted with~~
~~at the the~~ ~~disability~~ duty ~~is~~, is not
strong enough, and suffers a good deal
with his left leg, so that he cannot hold
out to walk far. The 17 year old boy went
up to Raleigh last Friday, Asst. Franklin
Warren formed our Company, Christopher Smith
of this County elected Captain, Price of honor
Lieut, W. Cappel and Dr Foster Dr 2 & 3
Lieutenants, I suppose these boys will stay at
Raleigh and drill and be sent off to other
Companies as they become 18.

As I have nothing else of interest to write I will
close, all well and give me in much
love, respects to Lieut Bentons and all the other boys.
Write us after a year. ~~Very~~ affectionate Father & Sister

P.S.

J. J. B. Vick, was wounded in the breast, but slightly,
not bad enough, he feared, to get a furlough.
When did you hear from Genl Mitchell, D. G. G.?
Suppose he is in Raleigh, sick, but I heard
the other day he was improving. —