

No 2.

I thought at one time that there was a close call for me, & that the prospects of my seeing home were rather slim. The rebels got the range of us with 2 rifled cannons & they dealt out death on all sides of us. Our Company was trying to hold a position when they turned their guns on us. The shells & shot threw the mud & branches of trees all over us. we lay flat on our faces, if we had not we should have been completely cut up. Another company was lying down about a rod behind us, & one rifled shot passed directly over my head and under one of those behind and threw him and the turf and mud over a rail fence just behind him. he scrambled up & rubbed the sand out of his eyes, & very coolly said he was more scared than hurt. I supposed they was all torn to splinters. Then we were called to support another Regt. that was charging the battery but darkness set in before we could do much, but we had to stand on our arms, through an awful cold, drenching rain, we had to stand on our arms for fear they might try to break through our lines. We most died with the cold. we were more than 24 hours without a dry thread on

us, but if I can only get home safe, and
have these miserable cowards, & thieves, whipped
out I am perfectly satisfied, & thankful
that I can pass through such things for my
country. When I think of the time when all
the providence of God I shall see you once
more, I can hardly contain myself with the
thoughts of the joy which that time will bring.
While writing the above, Sedgewick & myself
have visited another battle field, you can
form no idea of the horrors of this field.
The men still lie here, that were killed day
before yesterday, the rebels lie in piles
all over the woods, our men are mostly buried
the sight is dreadful, though if I had not
seen some such things before, I should not
have been able to stand it, some of the
boys were faint at the sight, of men with
their heads off and lying in their hats a few
feet off. I must close this - as my paper is
about used up. We have just got the official
news of the capture of Magnuder and
15,000 men, & the cannons have been firing
a salute & all the bands playing national
airs. So Good bye, pray without ceasing
give lots of love to all my friends.
From your distant soldier Boy
Fred