Un Bottle Fround near Spottsylvonna Court House 10 o'clock Alla May 16th 1844 Dear Brother: This just heard the good news that the mail goes out at 12 me so I will by & write you are account of our Ed bottle on this ground. We now hold our lines me fought so disperilely for last Thursday in the pineproods me have built us good breet works & lay quite securely behind thewe just got in from the ahirwish line for I was delated detailed on picket last night The rebels herimshers thech popping at us & we at there occasionally wounding one on our side of suppose ne don't bit any more of the There was terrible fighting & borrible staughter on the ground Jane where I now write. For 10 days previous to last Thursday the weather for very hat & sultry but during Wednesday night Frained hard we lay in it all att daylight me were ardered to octome Wellich) were the 1st line of battle followed a few rods behind by a special line We drove the rebel skirmishers & their supports 3/4 of a mile to the ground where we now lay here we pret with the rebels in their & such a tirrebl fire I was never under before we see it was on use to charge on them soull layed down but did not fire much

On Battle Ground near Spottsylvania Court House 10 o'clock AM May 16th 1864

Dear Brother:

I have just heard the good news that the mail goes out at 12 n. so I will try & write you on account of our 2d battle on this ground. We now hold our lines we fought so desperately for last Thursday in the pinewoods we have built us good breast works & lay quite securely behind them I have just got in from the skirmish line for I was detailed on picket last night The rebels skirmishers keep popping at us & we at them occasionally wounding one on our side & I suppose we don't hit any more of them

There was terrible fighting & horrible slaughter on the ground where I now write. For 10 days previous to last Thursday the weather was very hot & sultry but during Wednesday night I rained hard we lay out in it all night at daylight we were ordered to advance We (11th) were the 1st line of battle followed a few rods behind by a second line We drove the rebel skirmishers & their supports ¾ of a mile to the ground where we now lay here we met with the rebels in their rifle pits & such a terribl fire I was never under before we see it was no use to charge on them so all layed down but did not fire much

guns light a dirty colored brondbarchiefs shirts & hoversacks when we come whe then creed don't short don't short we got inough we surrender" and we seest them book into glad to go back. We did not stop for any thing but rushed are over the next line of sifle fait driving the rebelo before no till we came who to a little brook & an open field have not many of no Farming them stopped to take a drink for I was most clocked. In the mean time the 31st the beg fell book & left our left flowth open the 9th Ala. Reg. marched in and commerced cultury us off and sending the bullets into over right I war then commerced a regular alunteed & knoprocks foversocks conthing that would inpede ones locomotion was quickly dropped and lego handled themselves pretty lively till me found ansolved half way back to where we storted the rebels crying hall holt & the bullets whigging by us they took many prisoners led Harrison was

guns light & dirty colored handkerchiefs shirts & haversacks when we come up they cried "don't shoot don't shoot we got enough we surrender" and we sent them back into our lines and they seemed to be mighty glad to go back. We did not stop for any thing but rushed on over the next line of rifle pits driving the rebels before us till we came up to a little brook & an open field here many of us I among them stopped to take a drink for I was most clocked. In the mean time the 31st Me Reg. fell back & left our left flank open the 9th Ala. Reg. marched in and commenced cutting us off and sending the bullets into our right & rear then commenced a regular stumpeed & knapsacks haversacks & evrything that would impede ones locomotion was quickly dropped and legs handled themselves pretty lively till we found ourselves half way back to where we started the rebels crying halt halt & the bullets whizzing by us they took many prisoners Col Harriman was

captured some after my communeed to retreat We captured a Lieut in the 9th Ala in his bo took him prison & said a private Colins was killed inslanlly just as me began to charge a boll went through. the erow of his head to I had fine men wounded most of their sleightly Our beg lost Go mun wounded & mining and stronge to say only Lient bollolins & Levent to atching (was on but befinne, stoff bol Briffin commands 29. beigade) was killed, But as Sahould have said after retreating nearly hilf the way back we formed our lines & healthe rebelo at bey till night a most terriffee charge was made by our troops just on our right with what result I never have learlied it slept on our arms that night expecting hourly on attack but we were not troubled except being wake wh figuratly by officers & voleyo of muchely meet day held the line built log brest works had orders to march at 4 pm moreked out of the woods. Just before me marched I sam swerd men

captured soon after we commenced to retreat. We captured a Lieut in the 9th Ala who described Col Harriman & said a private in his Co took him prisoner Lieut Col. Colins was killed instantly just as we began to charge, a ball went through the crown of his head Co D had five men wounded most of them slightly Our Reg lost 60 men wounded & missing and strange to say only Lieut Col Colins & Lieut Hutchins (who was in Col Giffins of 6th NHV staff, Col Griffin commands 2d brigade) was killed. But as I should have said after retreating nearly half the way back we formed our lines & held the rebels at bay till night a most terriffic charge was made by our troops just on our right with what result I never have learned. We slept on our arms that night expecting hourly an attack but we were not troubled except being woke up frequently by officers & voleys of musketry, next day held the line built log brest works had orders to march at 4pm marched out of the woods. Just before we marched I saw several men

First dergund for him but did not four timets are him as this regiment layed buy a mile away Wx morehed to where Groutes & Burnsides head quarters were during the fight mor a slote aboved house, where "Stonewall " packsone leg was ampulated here camped or rother restel for the night ispecting to march every assiste meet Lunday maring marched 3 miles to the old Choncellorswill battle ground camped where the Old 2" borps fought so dispersion here we see relies of the bottle evy tree bears the morks of bulleto & skills some trus have a doyen scars. We frequently found dead mens shulls & bones I saw a foot & leg stocking & show on the foot all looking quite notural. We lay here till Minday I m then relieved by black troops of Frereroldy durion & morehed thwards Fredrick burgh rested tell the following day huselay I have ordered to morele moreled rapidly to the extreme left of the army it was very hot & the dust was most sufficating ofter somming about I miles me fort whour posserction on front of the rebs our botteres shelling them furiously towards dark Theht one our arms

of the 39th Mass one of Co H who knew Tom Short I inquired for him but did not have time to see him as his regiment lay half a mile away

We marched to where Grants & Burnsides head quarters were during the fight, near a slate colored house, where "Stonewall" Jackson's leg was amputated here camped or rather rested for the night expecting to march evry minute next Sunday morning marched 3 miles to the old Chancellorville battle ground camped where the Old 2d Corps fought so desperately here we see relics of the battle evry tree bear the marks of bullets & shells some trees have a dozen scars. We frequently found dead mens skulls & bones I saw a foot & leg stocking & shoe on the foot all looking quite natural. We lay here till Monday pm then relieved by black troops of [?] division & marched towards Fredricksburgh rested till the following day Tuesday 2pm ordered to march marched rapidly to the extreme left of the army it was very hot & the dust was most sufficating after running about 7 miles we took up our possition in front of the rebs our batteries shelling them furiously towards dark Slept on our arms