

March on the battle field
12 miles from Richmond
June 4th 1864

Dear Father, James:

I sent day before
yesterday two letters home. Since then
we have had another hard fight with the
rebs. I was out again without a
scratch but feel very tired & gassed out.
Thursday morning at daylight we
evacuated our position & the whole
night being snowed towards Richmond.

At 12 o'clock the 2nd Div in good stacked
arms in a corn field there came up
a terrible thunder shower & we huddled
under our rubber blankets & sat on our
knapsacks the shower lasted for 20 min
- after just as it closed we heard heavy
crashing of musketry in our rear for we
we all spent our things & grabbed our
guns in a hurry fragments were piled

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Camp on the Battlefield
12 miles from Richmond
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Dear Brother James,

I sent day before yesterday two letters home. Since then we have had another hard fight with the rebs. I come out again without a scratch but feel very tired & jaded out.

Thursday morning at daylight we evacuated our position & the whole right wing swung towards Richmond. At 4 o'clock as the 2d Div had stacked arms in a corn field there came up a terrible thunder shower & we huddled under our rubber blankets seated on our knapsacks the shower lasted for 20 minutes just at its close we heard heavy crashing of musketry in our rear for once we all put on our things & grabbed our guns in a hurry Regiments were filed

right & left lines of battle formed, artillery
placed in position baggage trains rushed to
the rear ambulance trains moved back to
own sheltering distance. Our brigade
doubled quick half a mile ^{through the muddy corn field} to occupy
the front of our rifle pits built by our
forces when we first advanced this
formed the first line of battle having
reversed the pits they were not a very
good protection but ^{here} we waited for the
rebs. expecting an attack every minute
for our skirmishers were hotly engaged
almost all night. The rifle pits we were
in front of faced south. The second
line of battle formed by the 1st Brigade
occupied a line of pits facing north
which had been built by the rebels
behind this second line was 18 pieces
of artillery in position. At about 5 o'clock
the rebels made three terrific charges on
our left held by the 3rd Div. but were
each time repulsed. We waited impatiently
for them to come up in our front but
they were so severely punished by the 3rd
Div. It was a grand sight to see those

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right & left lines of battle formed, artillery placed in position baggage trains rushed to the rear & ambulance trains hurried back to non shelling distance Our brigade double quicked half a mile through the muddy corn field to occupy the front of our rifle pits built by our forces when we first advanced this formed the first line of battle having reversed the pits they were not a very good protection but here we waited for the rebs expicting an attack evry minute for our skirmishers were hottly engaged almost all night The rifle pits we were in front off faced south the second line of battle formed by the 1st Brigade occupied a line of pits facing north which had been built by the rebels behind this second line was 18 pieces of artilery in possition At about 5 o clock the rebels made two terriffic charges on our left hild by the 3d Div. but were each time repulsed. We wanted impatiently for them to come upon our front but they were to severly punished by the 3d Div It was a grand night I see those

pieces of shelling flying in the air in the
woods in front especially just at dark
as we could see the flash of the guns
& the flight of the shells over our heads
All night long we lay shivering in
the cold driving rain. Friday morn-
ing opened cloudy & chilly about 8 am
the 1st Brigade advanced & attacked
the enemy soon our brigade took its
position on the right Our regiment
marched by the right flank and on
nearing the line we were ordered to
cross over the ridge of land which they
used for a protection & take a position
in the road thereby lengthening the
line but working on to the rebels
flank. We dashed across that ridge
in plain view of the rebel rifle
pits receiving a terrific fire almost
equalling the fire at Shottsylvania
But the rebs fired most too low the
bullets striking in the sand at our
feet like hail stones at the commence-
ment of a shower. Having gained the

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pieces of artillery playing on the rebs in the woods in front especially just at dark as we could see the flash of the guns & the flight of the shells over our heads All night long we lay shivering in the cold drizzling rain. Friday morning opened cloudy & chilly about 7 am the 1st Brigade advanced & attacked the enemy soon our brigade took its position on the right Our regiment marched by the right flank and on nearing the line we were ordered to cross over the ridge of land which they used for a protection & take a position in the road there by lengthening the line but working on to the rebels flank. We dashed across that ridge in plain view of the rebel rifle pits receiving a terrific fire almost equaling the fire at Spottsylvania But the rebs fired most too low the bullets striking in the sand at our feet like hail stones at the commencement of a shower Having gained the

road we were quite well protected. By
the bank on the opposite side In this
position we could pick off the gunners
of a rebel battery & compelled them to
stop using it thus it was held all day
for we kept up a heavy fire all day
The 11th Reg lost 24 wounded & 4 killed
during the day at night we built
breast works Two were wounded slightly
in Co. D. I am Gibson of Hillsboro
was slightly wounded in the back as
we advanced over the ridge

While laying in the road a ball
went through my haversack tearing two
big holes in it & spoiling a nice little
sugar can partly filled with sugar.
I guess the rebels are short of sugar as they
seem to want to spoil mine

This morning on waking up we found
the rebels had left almost over on to the ground
they had occupied & was surprised to see
the great number of dead men & dead horses
we must have killed about all their battery
horses & they left in such a hurry they did stop
to bury their dead they drew their guns off by
hand & left a few caissons only glad enough
I guess to get away I guess they will not want
to attack us in the near again a very soon
for the way the trees in their lines were riddled
with bullet it must have been very hot place

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road we were quite well protected by the bank on the opposite side. In this position we could pick off the gunners of a rebel battery & compelled them to stop using it. This it was held for me kept up a heavy fire all day.

The 11th Reg lost 26 wounded & 4 killed during the day. At night we built breast works. Two were wounded slightly in Co. D. Sam Gipson, of Hillsboro, was slightly wounded in the back as we advanced over the ridge.

While laying in the road a bolt went through my haversack taring two big holes in it & spoiling a nice little sugar can partly filled with sugar. I guess the rebels are short of sugar as they seem to want to spoil mine.

This morning on waking up we found the rebels had left. I went over on to the ground they had occupied & was surprised to see the great number of dead men & dead horses. We must have killed about all their battery horses & they left in such a hurry they did stop to bury their dead. They drew their guns off by hand & left a few caissons only glad enough I guess to get away. I guess they will not want to attack us in the rear again very soon. For the way the trees on their lines were riddled with bullet it must have been lines a very hot place.