Bri's. Genl. Henry L. Benning
Columbus, Ga.

[Signature]

Peterson, Virginia
July 23rd 64

Dear General,

I am glad to hear of your improvement and the kind word of your friends. I take the opportunity to say I am informed to hear that you have not been furnished with any account of the Brigade casualties since you left and since that time. I am informed that you were hit by a bullet, and receiving some ink on the face, I have obtained a full list from the Adj. Office, but without details to date. The number of killed, wounded, and missing, occasioned by the battle of the "Wilderness" will amount to 1,350. From that date to the present, our loss in skirmishes and sharp shooting amounted to 40.

You have learned probably from different sources that we were not engaged at Spottsylvania except in a heavy skirmish on the 10th, from which our loss was 20.
These with those that have fallen here on this enquiring line make up the 45-minute long. By the obstinate resistance of our skirmish line at Spotsylvania a very important position was retained and probably saved our corps from being involved in the great assassals of the 12th on Johnnys. It was impracticable to mass forces in our front.

On the lines at Gaines' Mills we escaped being involved there by luck = Gen. Law did not, but he suf-fred none hardly. He and another officer were the only casualties. Perrill has been subsequently wounded both each have slight lingering wounds. The duties here are simply to occupy the trenches from day to day being relieved for 2 days every 6 days that a brigade remains in it. The enemy's lines vary from 200 to 500 yards in front and having approached by rifle pits in some places
reason it is necessary to be very vigilant & the sharp shooting is consequently severe. Most of our men have been killed wounded by car-riages on their part. The works are quite formidable on both sides and being constantly improved so much that both sides are afraid to attack. Early has drawn off the Cavalry and ordered our rail-roads temporarily, but I fear the enemy's reser ve are superior to ours here and a rush at any time is likely to destroy them again. What Grant will do next is a serious enigma which I expect is as difficult to solve with him as any one else. He may resort to cutting the roads again; that is all that is left him.

I cannot say that the Brigade is getting on well. Entirely none there is much dissatisfaction among the men & officers, originating in the brigade Command. Col. — has
played too hard for the Temporary Rank of Brigadiers. Well, to tell the truth it is hard to act, mostly in high places and there's a source of discontent to old troops. Outside of that I do not myself now think that all our Co's make good brigadiers. The mess is rather divided. Seaborn has his own, I've retired among the "bomk proof" for convenience. Col. Seaborn has his own. I hope this arrangement will not last long. - Turmoil.

Tell Mott I got his of 27 Stone and will answer it soon. His horse is doing well. Seaborn is, in good health. The health of the men is not good for want of vegetables. Hoping this may find you much improved. Your family in good health, believe me.

Your Truly Yours,

[Signature]