

AAG Office
1 Brig 1 Div 19 A.C.
On the Field La Ap 10/64

My dear sir

We met the enemy 20 to 25 thousand strong day before yesterday. He beat us. We met him yesterday and gained a victory. Terrible loss of life on both sides. The fighting was principally with the musket and bayonet.

I lost 3 or 4 of my best friends killed. I have great cause to be thankful was only slightly wounded in left arm. My horse (a fine black stallion) is dangerously wounded, the ball has gone in 10 or 12 inches, can't be got out.

The glass you gave was captured first day the leather string broke and the Rebs got them but in the next battle the officer was captured by one of Regts in our Brig whose officer knew the glasses and while riding along the lines they gave them to me.

Singular coincidence

Will write you particulars when we get to camp, but I am now "fairly played out" not having slept or being out of the saddle for 38 hours, not to mention the fighting and forced marches.

Any papers which may give an account please send me all my duds are directed to you if I ever accidently dispose of keep []

Send postals for the boys, dispose of anything else as you see fit.

Regards to all

Oliver Matthews
AAG