

~~Sept~~

Pivonac 15th N. of V. } 1/2
in a Ravine 1/2 mile }
East of Sadsicheshungwa } 1/2

My Dear Father

I received
your letter and papers
today, and am much ob-
liged for them.

I wrote to Mother from
my camp near King George.
We left there on the 11th
marched to the banks
of the Rappahannock River
two miles below Sadsiches-
burgh and encamped.
Heard the cannon roar-
ing all day. Started across

the pontoon bridge (or rather
a cross one of them, for there
are five), and supported
one of our batteries which
was shelling the enemy,
after a while we were taken
down into a deep ravine
and made to lie down
flat which we had no
sooner done than the
shells began to come down
with their "w-h-i-a-b-a-m-g"
a long continued, terrifying
noise which makes a man
involuntarily start, they
fell pretty sharp and thick
and threw the mud all over
us and wounded one man
in the 2nd N. J. Regt.

at dark we came up the
ravine to where we now
lie.

The next morning we were
~~ordered~~ out on the outmost
pickets posts and the ball
then opened at about 9 A.M.
the shells flew all over us
and around us but luckily
hit no one.

In the afternoon the Rebel
Pickets made a charge on ours
and were met at 25 or 30
yards by an murderous fire
from our boys. The left company
of our Regt. (S. K. G. & B.) had
it pretty hot now and
in the skirmish Sergt. Major
John P. Fowler was hit in

the leg by a rifle ball and
bled to death in 5 minutes.
Maj. James M. Brown was
struck by a spent ball in
the leg but not badly.

Capt. Slater of Co. G was
wounded in the leg by a
minie ball and had it
amputated. Co. F lost a
man and I believe Co. C.
Co. B had a few wounded
We (our Regt) lost 3 men
killed and 10 wounded.
The Rebels were eventually
driven in.

The 4th N.J. made a
dash and captured a
rebel rifle pit but could
not hold it in the fight
Col. Hatch was wounded

in the leg and it was
amputated.

The battle on the Right
and left wings was
general but in the centre
there were but few shots
fired.

Our company was not
disturbed at all and
we were relieved this
morning.

They are now fighting
on the right but not
on the left wing.

The enemy is in great
force here and has
every natural advant-
-age.

Serqiant-Major Fowler's
body was at first
captured by the Rebels
and robbed of his watch
and purse but not his
saber and then relin-
quished and buried
by our men.

I must stop now
as it is getting dark.
Get large G's boots.
Write soon.

I expect we will be
engaged in a big
battle tomorrow, and
next day.

If I survive I will
write you immediately.

Give my love to all
and write soon to

Your loving
Son,
Ellis.

Col. M. R. Hamilton
Camden
N. Jersey.

X

Battle Fredericksburg, Va



X