

Camp On the Potomac, near the  
Battle field of Antietam, Sept 25, 1862

Dear Generals,

I started from Washington on Monday at 7.40 A.M. Arriving at Frederick after awhile I was at Frederick as to get a ride on the mail wagon, of King's Division with several other officers. We came to Boonsboro, over the Mountain, through Lumer's Gap, where the battle of Sunday (South Mt.) was fought, where we staid that night. The next morning we came on. I found our ~~Reg.~~<sup>Div.</sup> without much difficulty, but coming upon our baggage wagons, I found that our Brigade had just moved. I got a horse of 2 M. Rowan, & came on to the Reg. They had gone but a little way. I was immediately put on picket duty, with 20 men of our Reg. at Shepherd's Ford, about 3 miles further up the river.

our pickets were fired on frequently  
during the next day, by the rebel pickets,  
& the firing was kept up between  
them till nearly night. We had some  
pretty sharp firing. We were relieved  
about midnight, last night, by Gen.  
Canby's Division "pickets", & came in  
to camp. We now have orders to  
march. - I have but a moment  
to write. - Sherman, Handley, Roberts,  
were killed in the last battle; Knight  
was mortally wounded & has since  
died. McChristol, John Williams,  
Hayden & one or two others were severely  
wounded, Hayden will probably die.  
Will write particulars next opportunity.  
Out of 203, of our Reg. who  
went into the fight, 95 were killed  
& wounded. -

Yours &c R. P. Pleadly.