

INTERESTING LETTER FROM MANASSAS.—We have been favored with the sight of a letter from 2d Lieut. J. A. McPherson, of this county, in Capt. Avery's Company of Col. Fisher's Regiment, (lately a student at Col. Hill's Military Institute at Charlotte,) dated at Manassas Station, July 22d, from which we are permitted to make the following extracts:—

“Leaving Richmond we went by railroad to Strawberry, and stayed there one night. Next morning we started for Winchester, 18 miles, on foot. We had to make a forced march of it, as Johnston was expected to be attacked by an overwhelming force. We arrived late in the evening, and were drawn out in line of battle. That night I lay in the corner of a fence with some wheat straw for a shelter. We stayed there till late next evening, when, not being attacked, we pitched our tents and slept in them one night.

News then came that Gen. Beauregard was attacked by a force of three to one, and that the forces threatening us had gone to unite with those against Beauregard. Early in the morning we struck our tents, and, with thousands of others, left Winchester late in the day. When out of town Col. Fisher read an order from the General to make a forced march across the Blue Ridge. We marched till late in the night, and then all lay down by the road-side and slept. At day-break we started again, arrived at Piedmont that night and lay out in a wheat-field all night. Next morning we were roused before day, and started for the cars, but did not get off till night. We suffered a great deal from hunger and fatigue. I stood it as well if not better than the most of them.

We reached Manassas early in the morning, and could hear the cannon firing. We got to the battle field about 12 o'clock, and were led into the fight, and that the hottest of it. Our front rank men fought bravely. We took two pieces of artillery that belonged to the brag battery of the U. S., Sherman's battery. We were standing around the pieces, when some one cried out that we had fired into our friends. The enemy fired upon us from the bushes, and we fell back, as we thought it was our friends. Then they fired on us worse than ever. Our men killed all their horses and they could not take off the guns; so we got them. Col. Fisher was killed near the battery. I did not see him fall and did not know he was killed till the next day. He was shot through the head.

I never thought I could stand the fire of bullets as I did that day; and how I escaped being killed I do not know. It was just an act of Providence that we were not killed by hundreds. About 100 of our regiment were killed and wounded—17 killed and some mortally wounded.

After that fight about 145 of our men went with some other regiments to protect the Washington Artillery of New Orleans. We reached a high hill and could see the enemy drawn out in line of battle. Our artillery opened on them and they retreated. We followed them two or three miles, and that is the last we have seen of them.

We were then about 8 miles from the Junction. The General told us he would attach us to a Mississippi regiment, and we could stay there for the night. I made my supper that night on berries that I plucked about in the old fields. We laid that night on the ground in an old field. Next morning we got plenty to eat for breakfast. On Monday morning it began to rain. Our men said they knew where there were plenty of yankee blankets, over-coats and oil-cloths. Some were sent for them and came in loaded down with blankets, over-coats, india rubber over-coats, india rubber table-covers, oil cloths and haversacks. I have a splendid yankee over-coat and so has Capt. Avery. I have also one of their india rubber table-covers. I found these very useful, as we had to march 8 miles in the rain and mud. We took thousands of blankets, over-coats, &c.

We have fought the flower of the Northern army, and I think they had a great many more men than we had. Some of the wounded told us that they were the old U. S. regulars, and I think they must have been, for they fought bravely.

We have just received orders to leave this place, to go I know not where, but I suppose towards Alexandria.

N. W. Ray [of Cumberland county] is very well. He was not hurt.