

the country that day and bought all the bread, pies, cakes, butter-milk and cheese that they could get.

(1863) Wednesday, July 1st, we marched early towards Gettysburg stopping for dinner at Taneytown. We stopped that night about 3 miles from Gettysburg. There has been some fighting there most all day and we were told that the Rebs had rather beaten us. Gen. Reynolds was killed and our forces were driven back about one mile. The next day, the 2nd of July, we marched to the front where we lay quiet all the A.M. and until most dark when the rebels drove our men back in the center and we were sent to their support. We charged down across a stubble field about 30 rods and stopped in a ravine lined with brush and trees but the rebels were three to our one and had got the first fire on us when the General ordered us to retire which we did, losing some over 200 killed and wounded in about 15 minutes. We rallied what was left on the same ground that we started from and were ready for another fight but a battery to our right had opened with grape and canister on the rebs and had driven them back. Capt. Messick was now in command of the regiment, he being the senior officer that was not disabled for our Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel and Major were all badly wounded. As soon as we were rallied good we saw that the rebs had been repulsed by the battery. Wm. Ramsey, Cal Jackson and myself went down unto the field to do what we could for the wounded and as fast as the stretchers and ambulances could be got they were borne from the field to the hospitals. After we had done what we could for the wounded we joined our regt. and lay on our arms until morning. The next day there was continued skirmishing along the lines. About noon the rebs opened upon us with their artillery and I believe the shot and shell flew the thickest that I ever saw. They passed over our heads like hail, some bursting directly over us but we lay flat on the ground and no one was hurt by them in our regt. It is said the rebs had over 100 guns firing along the line at one time and it lasted over an hour. Our batteries replied briskly at first but were ordered to cease firing when the rebs also ceased and immediately advanced their infantry with an idea that we had been scared away by their shelling. "Gen. Lee told his men that it was Militi that were opposed to them and he rightly supposed that they could be shelled out. But it was the old Potomac Army that he was trying