

## *The Battle of Gettysburg*

Altho I am green I wont give up on that account. There are thousands of visitors in camp every day. They bring lots of fruit and delicious things to eat. Sept. 4th there was festival dinner for the Minn. 1st and 8th Ohio Regts. by the ladies of the Methodist Church.

Sept. 7th. We are on the Empire City about 20 hours out of New York, and running up the Potomac. We landed at Alixandria the 8th about 4 P.M. Sept. 9th we are camped on the Rapidan, about 8 miles from Culpeper.. The Rebs are about one mile out and skirmishing with our pickets for the last few days. On the march we made about twenty miles per day. The water was scarce and about as bad as we had on the Bull Run retreat. I got eight letters yesterday, and it was good to hear from home. One of the substitutes deserters from the 19th Maine. Two deserters were shot in the 4nd Division Friday. I am glad they are being punished. The Company have most all gone on picket. I was on Brigade guard, but am relieved now. Some of the substitutes desert and go to the Rebs most every night. One of the Rebs from a Georgia Regt. came over to us last night. He says his wife is on her way north, and he promised to meet her in New York. Twenty of his comrades were coming with him, but they ere too closely watched. Culpeper Va. Oct. 7th. We have been on picket every day since we came here. Our camp is about one half mile from town, where the whole 2nd Corps is camped in a large field. Gen. Meades Headquarters are here.

The Rebs are digging riflepits, and have a strong position. Raining tonight, and I look for more. Major Downie is in command of the Regiment now. The officers are trying to get us to reenlist for three years more. A bounty of \$402.00 is offered to those who will. I never enlisted for money, and I never will.

We had another fight with the Rebs near Bristoe Station, on the 14th of Oct. We followed the railroad to about 1/2 mile of the station, where we found them in force. Our Reft. was sent forward as skirmishers. They were behind some pines, so thick that we wouldnt shoot. Some of the boys got a shot, but I didnt fire. Soon we were called back and went into position behind the R. R. embankment. As we retreated behind the bank, they fired a tremendous volley, wounded two or three slightly. When we got behind the bank, we gave them some of our best rations of Uncles