

Anderson W. Pidcock (ref. # 112261) and the Civil War

Anderson W. Pidcock was born December 21, 1844, the oldest child of Charles and Mary Pyatt Pidcock. He was almost 18 years old when this letter was written to his 13 year old brother, Clark. He was part of company H, 6th Regiment NJ Volunteers. He died in the Battle of the Wilderness of Virginia on May 6, 1864, not yet 20 years old. He is buried in Holcombe-Riverside Cemetery, just north of Lambertville, NJ.

Camp Near Manasses Va Junction

Nov th11 1862

Dear brother i take this oportunity to send you a few lines that i enjoy the best of health at present and hope that wen these few lines reach you they may find you the same i received your letter on the 5 of November and was glad to hear from you you said that you sent me three or four letters and had got no ansur from me i will nsure you that this is the only letter that i have received from you in six or seven months and i will ansur it now we moved from alaxandria on the second of Nov and it took two days for us to reach centerville and part of a day to reach manasses Junction and we layed there two days and then we Moved to Bristow Station and lay there a day and then we advanced toward waringtown Junction but did not get futher than Cattle Station which is eight 8 miles from warington we have foorteen hundred men in our brigade wich consist of Six regiments wen we got to cattle station General Patterson found that the rebbles were a marching against Our brigade with eight thousen 8 8000 Men and General Sickles stil ordered him on with our forteen hundred men against eight thousen soldiers and Cpt Osborn and battry of Six guns swore they was not a gont to be captured Cpt Osborn said that he had not lost a gun yet and said that he would not And General Pattersen new he would be captured if he went any futher and so at midnight we fell back to manasses Junction and Sickles caled the Jersey brigade damn Cowards and put Patterson under arest for saveing his brigade from being captured Generall Sickles is a damnd drunerd to make the best out of him Yesterday the train brout a carr up to were we were a laing with seventeen barles of wiskey for the officers and the boys brook in the heads in and there was a drunken time i tel you in our brigade and to day we moved two Hundred yards the news has just come in camp that sixteen of our picits has been captured we will see fiteing yet to night

*Yours respectfully
Corp Anderson W Pidcock
To
Mr. Clark Pidcock esq
Lambertville
Hunterdon Co
NewJersey*

i received two new York Ledgers on the first of Nov and two on the ninth and send me more if you please

*Corp Anderson W Pidcock Com H
Six Reg N.J. Vol
To
Mr. Clark Pidcock
Esq*

The news has just come
in that sixteen of our
boats has been captured & captured
we will have to fight
yet to night

Yours respectfully

Capt Anderson ^{of the} 11th

Mr Clark ^{of the} 11th

Lambertville

Hamilton Co

N. Jersey

i received two new york
papers on the first of
nov and two on the ninth of
and send me more if you
please

N. J.

Camp near Manassas Junction
Nov 11 - 1862

Dear brother i take this opportunity
to send you a few lines that i enjoy
the best of health at present and
hope that when these few lines
reach you they may find you
the same i received your letter on
the 5 of november and was glad to
hear from you you said that you
sent me three or four letters and
had got no answer from me i
will assure you that this is the
only letter that i have received
from you in six or seven
months and i will answer it
now we moved from Alexandria
on the seven second of Nov
and it took two days for us
to reach Centerville and part
of a day to reach Manassas
Junction and we stayed there
two days and then we

Moved to Bristow Station and
 lay there a day and then we
 advanced toward Warrenton
 Junction but did not get further
 than Catlett Station which is eight
 miles from Warrenton we have
 fourteen hundred men in our
 brigade which consist of six regiments
 when we got to Catlett Station General
 Patterson found that the
 rebels were marching against
 our brigade with eight thousand
 & 600 men and General
 Sickles still ordered him on
 with our fourteen hundred
 men against eight thousand
 soldiers and Capt Colburn
 and battery of six guns
 swore they was not a general
 to be captured Hasbarn said that
 he had not lost a gun yet
 and said that he would not

And General Patterson
 knew he would be captured if he
 went any further so at
 midnight we fell back to
 Manassas Junction and Sickles
 called the Jersey Brigade and
 Cowards and put Patterson
 under arrest for saving his
 brigade from being captured
 General Sickles and a drum
 drummers to make the best
 out of him get ready
 the train went a car with
 over one week of being with
 seventeen barrels of whiskey for
 the officers and the boys took
 in the heads in and there
 was a drunken time in the
 night in our brigade and
 the next day we will see Patterson
 thousands yards the next day
 Genl come in camp that six teen of our
 plants has been captured

"Going into camp at Alexandria, VA the brigade remained undisturbed until the 1st of November 1862 when, Lee having been driven from Maryland, it proceeded toward Bristow Station where it arrived on Nov. 4th, the 5th and 6th Regiments being in advance. Then on the following day, it moved on a reconnaissance to Catlett Station, but having accomplished its object, at once returned to its old camp, whence, shortly after, it withdrew to Manassas Junction. This last march was made in the midst of a snowstorm, and the men suffered severely.

"New Jersey and Rebellion: A history of the services of the Troops and people of New Jersey in aid of the Union cause", by John Y. Foster. Published by authority of the State, Newark, NJ, Martin R. Dennis & Co. 1868.