

Brownstown, Kan. Co. W. Va.
Nov. 2nd 1864

His Excellency
A. I. Boreman, Gov.
Sir,

I once more have the privilege and honor to communicate you again. Since my last I have used all the activity that man could and I believe had it not been for good economy and pretty good management I should not have come out so well as I have! but however I will give you a statement of facts, circumstances and occasions as they were and have been with me I drew my rations for the month of Oct I believe on the first day of said month kep my wagon running regularly until I got all halled to where I have been station all the while I kep my boys or a portion of them out on the scout and look regular using the old maxim, that caution is the mother of safety &c. had no encounters with the scouts of the enemy very that appeared quiet and favorable until the 21st inst about, 4 o'clock pm. I received intelligence that the rebels was advancing upon me in force which proved very true for in about half hours time there advance came in sight. They made preparations as though they were going to fight the decisive battle of the war at the forks of Cole river with the Raleigh Scouts what men I had present took position in the fort I have rote you so much about which was (26) twenty six, the remainder of my company was out on a scout the firing commenced terrific both ways and lasted about one hour and twenty minutes my boys expended a full box of cartridges, 1000 rounds they finally succeeded in flanking my position So I was compelled to abandon my fort or suffer myself and men to be captured. I had not got more than one hundred paces from the fort until they charged into my works with about twenty men to my one. Their numbers I ascertained very correctly from citizens who counted them passing four hundred and forty (440) Cavalry and fifty (50) Infantry, they captured from me eight days rations of crackers bacon and coffee. I Es for my Co. about ten (10) Austin rifles guns that was not used by my men because of there being of an indifferent quality also about (23) woolen blankets and a few other old clothes but of but little value. In the engagement I hadn't a man touched, of the enemy thar was five (5) killed and buried on the Battle Ground & from the best information I could get from every source for certain they had 16 wounded! The next morning I divided the 26 men I had with me in four (4) different squads and sent them to take positions near the road which they were going to travel. So we got our positions at four different places as they came along next morning. Consoling each other and talking of the grate and decisive victory the had one the previous evening. The old bushwhacking in good earnest began the results was truly gratifying they left three dead which I took grate pains in putting away agreeable to the ordinary customs of war we also wounded three horses which fell in to our hands and they appeared to be suffering and to relieve them the boys shot them. So from the best estimate that can be made they lost (8) men killed dead and about 20 wounded by my company. Capt. Tho Little had a company of some twenty five men going to Mercer County to hold an election met them killed 2 and wounded (2) one of the killed was a rebel captain by the name of Paine. A grate brave and chivalrous raider and highly prized in Dixie for I understand they sorely regret his loss. They captured one of my men who was out on a scout but as providence willed he escaped them by their sentinels going to sleep. Consequently I have all my men yet safe & sound and in fine spirits. I have no blank muster rolls or I would transmit you a muster rolls I have a total of (51) myself included this evening. I received requisitions for rations clothing and subsistence for five horses fifteen days all this gratified

myself and the boys very much and on the (8th) of Nov you and old uncle Abe will get the vote of Raleigh to occupy your seats another term the Rebels defeated the election being held in my county the superintendent have it advertised to hold the polls for all both State Co delegate & President together. I would be glad to have requisitions forwarded by the fifteenth for subsistence from the 15th to the 30th for my five work horses. I shall be compelled to use them regular. On the 31st I captured a rebel who had slipped in to try to conscript men in Raleigh Co. to make a rebel company. His idea must have been that those raiders had cleaned the county of protection. But so much for his mistake I will see them again & again until the (11th) of Febry next when my time will be out and if I or some other good man gets a company next year they will still be attended to.

I am with Sentiments of Regard Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Turner, Capt.
Commanding Raleigh Co. Scouts
W. Va. State Troops