

Acad. Gps. Commandant of Out-posts.

In the Swamps, Washington, N. Carolina,

June 29th 1863.

How are you?

Dear Wilson, about though not forgotten,

I have a good deal to say and hardly

know where to commence at, in the first place,

I arrived in Philad^a on the 1st of this month and

wrote to you immediately, or you said you would

come if I did so, but up to this time I have not

heard from you, until I returned to the Regt.

when I found a letter dated June 1st waiting

for me. I staid in Philad^a until the 22nd of this

month confident that I would either see, or

hear from you, every one wanted to see you so

much, Elsie asked about you repeatedly, Charley

also. • I arrived at New Berne on the 26th and

found our Regiment waiting for transportation

in this place, we arrived here the night of the

27th, and bivouacking on the wharf all night

men divided into detachments yesterday
morning and sent to different positions
to reclaim the Dragoons whose
term of service expires of the 16 July. The Regt. is
scattered all over the damned State, I am alone
with our Company. Captain being detailed at New Bern
on Lieut-Col, Martin's, Court Martial, and I have
to perform Sicket-duty, on the La Grange Road,
from the long Bridge, to Red Hill, a distance of
3 1/2 miles through the most infernal Swamp I
ever seen, it is full of Gorderny Roads interse-
cting each other in every way, which have to be
patrolled every hour by your humble servant,
accompanied by a Corporal and file of men,
I think it is worse than the Great Dismal,
and you know that is saying a great deal.
The Regiment has undergone great changes lately.
Burtis is Colonel, Martin is Lieut-Col, Metcalf is Major
Dan Smith is Captain. Whitely is 2^d Lieut Co "C"
Wood is 2^d Lt Co "K", Brown's Resignation has been
excepted, and Seiper is coming back to take

the Captaincy of Co "A". Binley stands a good chance
for the Adjutantcy, Dave Lending, who went to
Ohio, with Mary Ann, and I, committed suicide
at the New York Saloon, 333 Nassau St, first he
shot the Proprietor, and then blew his own brains
(if he had any) out, it was a damned disagreeable
specie of news for me to bring back to the Regt.
Lt Col Martin, is being Court-Martialed, for
unsoldierly behaviour, and several other charges,
I don't know much about the case for it was
commenced while I was away, and I haven't
had a chance to talk with any of our Officers since
I got back, I have had a rough shake since
I rejoined the Regt, being entirely alone, no
other Company within 4 miles of me, but I guess
I can stick it out. Genl Foster, is trying to throw
Col Burtis, on the ground of incapability, and
put one of his Staff in his place, a young whelp
who is 2^d Lieut in the Regular Army, the whole
Regiment is opposed to it, I don't know how
things will turn out but will let you know at

at next writing, I am glad you are in good
health, I am hearty as usual, and in good
spirits, only I was much disappointed at not
seeing you when I was north, for something tells
me it is the last time north for Pax, Charley or
I were around to Seethy's, twice but he was
sick, and we didnt get to see him,

You must excuse this writing, I am in a hurry as
one of the men is waiting to take it to town, so a
only knows who you will get it. if you go to Phil
call at 1135 Race St, and you will find, both
Mrs. Lieutenant Geo. B. Paxson, & Chas. M. Henderson,
they would both be glad to see you, every time.

for the present, farewell, and believe me

Your Sincere Friend

Joseph B. Paxson.

W. H. H. H. H.
and direct

58th Regt. Pa. Vols
Washington
North Carolina,

Major Paxton
Newtown

