

Dear Mother
May 23rd / 61

I read your letter of the 17th of the night - and was very glad to hear from you and to hear that Mother is well for I had a letter from you which said Mother was sick, which made me very uneasy until I read a letter from Mother and father which was only a few days old. You wanted to know how I felt - when I went into the field of battle. Well I can tell you I must say I was a little tired for I had marched between 20 & 25 miles that day - but - being about midnight they had sent out a patrol in the field - two days on the same ground before the fight - began, and I must say I never saw the boys feel better than they did Saturday before the fight - began they were as musical as an old tin snare and for my self I never felt better in my life and after the fight - began you wanted to know if I did not think of Mother and some others. No for I knew they were safe; but - I can tell you truly I did think of

I thought of DNB and thought
-if I could let him out all
right he would be the finest
trophy that I could bring off that
memorial field, and there a month
I bought him out all right.

You shake about naming the baby I can
tell you what to name him, Call him
Lare, Devil, Dick, And be sure and
get the Devil before the Dook if you
don't the Devil will be after after
Dick. You say it is an awful name
I say you are mistaken it is one
of the finest names in the world
but enough of this.

Enclosed you will find one Dollar which
I wish you would give to Betty and tell
him to buy me a ~~hat~~ and some
paper & envelopes and send it to me by
Lieut. Birn. Johnson by a flat Port
if you can find one cheap what if not you
need not send any don't pay more than
40 or 50 Cts for one. O'clock P.M.
I have just rec'd ~~Belley~~ along with
paper & envelopes & stamps. tell Billy he
may send another gross of paper & a
bunch of blue envelopes along with Bygones
if it can and if he cannot buy it tell him
he need not send it. he did not say