

LETTER OF ADDISON L. SCUTT, CO. C, 154th NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS

it is a long time since I saw Frank Cole
I would like to hear from him
Ad Stone is at Louisville yet

My love to Henry & his Wife and all enquiring friends
when you see Juliaett you can tell her that I am well and doing as well as possible

Camp of the 154th N.Y. Vols
Atlanta City Georgia Oct 2nd 64

Dear Granmother

it is sunday and thinking perhaps you would like to hear from your soldier boy I will improve a portion of the day in writing to you I dont expect to write any thing very entertaining but I can say that I am alive and well and have plenty to eat drink and ware, which will probably be of as much intrest as any thing I can think of to day the sanitory condition of the Regt is good at present there are but few complaining and the skurvy is the prevailing disease but it dont keep the men from doing duty I guess that I am about the worst case in the Regt my limbs from my knees down to my feet are all covered with running sores and have been so for two months past but it dont make me lame any and I feel as well as I ever did in my life and my apetite is very craving it dont seem as thought it could be satisfied with eatables the skurvy is caused so says the doctor for want of vegetables for the men to eat of which we get but very few if the men could have potatoes and onions once or twice a week it would be a preventive to such diseases we get rations of soft bread now evry day which is very good and makes some change in our diet and it relishes well after being confined to hard bread so long a time as we have been on this summer campaign I tell you granma it has been a hard one and one of a great many exposures and some hare breadth escapes I have been under the enemys fire for 125 days or more within the last 5 months and some days the bullets and shells flew pretty thick if I know myself espetially the days I am about to mention which are as follows the charge on Rocky Faced Ridge May 8th whare the 154th led the charge and lost nearly half its whole number the supporting column failing to come up in time we was repulsed with fearful loss and that after we had gained the top of the hill if our support had come up in time the hill would have been ours without fail our next charge was at Resaca May 15th our Regt was the supporting party and consequently our loss was light only two wounded in Company C and then May 23 the battle of New Hope Church the 154 the supporting column again and our loss was 2 wounded in Company C then June 15th we was sent out as skirmishers in the Charge of Pine Knob in this affair we lost upwards of 31 men in about 15 minutes I thought that was picking them off pretty fast the bullets cut pretty close to me that day and there was one man of my company wounded behind the same tree that I was behind but I happened to get to the tree first so I was less exposed then the man that was wounded. I was at that time some 5 rods in advance of ther rest of our line and it was a little farther in advance than I care about being againe then came the Battle of Kennesaw Duns cross Road Peach Tree Creek & the Siege of Atlanta all of which the 154th took a conspicuous part most allways took the lead Granmother I have seen just all the fighting I care about but I havent received a scratch this summer and the closest I ever knew of a balls comeing to me was in the fight of the 20th of July at Peachtree creek there was a musket ball passed through my haversack but it done no damage farther than to break up my hard crackers I shall feel pretty well at least if they dont come any closer than that for one year to come if I am spared another year I shall feel satisfied that I have

[ADDISON L. SCUTT letter continued]

done my duty to my country and served it faithfully and I hope the war will end with my term of service if not before so if I live to see that day that I can return to my home to dwell in peace the remainder of my days let them be few or many Granmother I want you to keep a watchful care over Juliaett and advise her the best way to get along and to be prudent and saving of her money and to put it to the best possible use and see that she wants for nothing to make her comfortable if I have my health I shall send her money enough to provide for her evry want by putting it to proper use I expect pay in a very few days and then I can send her over a hundred Dollars my wages are \$13 a month and I expect to support her and pretty well to without any home rent to pay she wrote to me a spell ago that Jane and Ann & mary was going out to her fathers and that she wanted to go with them I hardly think it best but advise her to do just what you think would be for the best I expect it is pretty hard for her to live there alone and for my part I am very willing she should go to her folks but I am afraid is she goes out there she will spend all the more and come back with out any thing to live on until I send her some more God knows my heart I love my country but I love my family better than I love my own life for this life never could have no real enjoyment for me without my family and if I live to come home again I shall loose no time in taking Juliaett to see her folks but it is getting late and I have got other duties to attend to for I am officer of the day today and I have had business a pleanty on hand for one day Goodby Your affectionate Son in Law

A. L. Scutt

[Courtesy of Jerry L. Scutt, Portville, New York]