

Sergeant Solomon William McClam

Letter to his father

Monday evening the 16th of March 1863

Mr. Daniel McClam,

Dear Father, I write you a few lines to inform you that I am well at present and I truly hope this finds you all enjoying [sic] the same blessings. Your kind letter of the 10th has just been received. I was very glad to hear that you were all well, as for myself I am still well and hearty and I believe the health of our Regt. is generally very good. I have no news to write you at present, only I much regret to inform you that Capt [sic] Nettles is dead. He died at Murfreesboro about four weeks ago. He died of the wounds inflicted [sic] upon him at the battle of that place. One of our Doctors which was left at Murfreesboro to attend the wounded got back here yesterday evening. He brought Lt. Lee a letter from M H Scott stating that Capt [sic] Nettles, R. W. Kirby, Corp Godwin and J. M. Matthews were all dead and G.W. Huggins was all the one of our wounded men left there yet living. He stated that Huggins was mending and that he thought that he would be able to leave there in about three weeks and I was very sorry to hear of the death of Capt [sic] Nettles but our finest men are the most apt to get killed in battle.

You must write soon when you get this letter. I wrote you a few lines and sent it by Mr [sic] M L Lee he left here last Sunday and I sent you \$75 in money by Mr. Lee. I would like you to buy me a small tract of land if there is any. Anywhere about there for sale. I have not money enough to pay for it yet, but if you can buy me a piece and pay for it I will take care of all the money I can get and pay you.

I could lay out my money in some kind of stock if I could be at home to attend to them. I think you had better try to raise all the hogs you can for they will bring money when nothing else wont. [sic]

I will close for the present, you must write soon as you get this letter, and let me know whether you get the money that I sent by Mr. Lee or not.

Write to me how you are getting along planting. Tell Susannah I was glad to hear that her and [missing] was getting along so well. I got the hair she sent me, I would her some of mine but I have had it cut so close till I can't get none to send her. I would like to see Susannah very much. I have not seen her so long that I have almost forgotten how she looks.

As you all know it will be 12 months the 21st day of this month since I had seen any of your faces. I have often thought with sorrow of the 21st day of last March when I saw the last of glimpse that have had of [illegible] Above grant that I may live to see you all one more time in this world.

So I will close write soon. Direct as before your letter. Father till death.
Sergeant S W McClam

Biographical Information

Sergeant Solomon William McClam was the son of Daniel McClam of Williamsburg; SC. Solomon was enlisted in Company H, 10th South Carolina Infantry Liberty Volunteers in 1861. The letter is just after the Battle of Stones River Murfreesboro Tenn. that was fought on the 31st of December 1862. Solomon William McClam was killed in action at the Battle of Atlanta July 22 1864. He is buried at Laurel Grove Cemetery, Savannah, Georgia

In the letter he refers to the deaths of:

Captain John Rueben Nettles 24 year old son of Wyatt Jordan Nettles of Williamsburg SC

Private Rueben Whitfield Kirby 18year old son of John Kirby of Effingham, SC Corp S.F.R. Godwin

Private JM Matthews

The above are probably buried at Evergreen Cemetery, Some other soldiers of Company H wounded were put on a prisoner train to Chattanooga. They are buried in Chattanooga Confederate Cemetery Tenn [sic] with about 800 other soldiers.

G W Huggins was a prisoner of war, wounded, recovered and later was killed at the Battle of Atlanta July 22nd 1864