

CHATTANOOGA HISTORY CENTER

This transcription is property of the Chattanooga History Center.

2015.001.050 transcription

2015.001.050 (1)

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Feb. 10th, 1864

Miss Lasher:

Perhaps you will think me very bold and audacious in addressing you without your consent. My excuse must [be] the anxiety and pleasure of a soldier [to] write and receive letters. I am rather more anxious to receive than write. If this excuse is not sufficient I shall certainly feel very miserable. Enough of excuses. I will now try and give you something of a description of this portion of "Dixie Land."

Chattanooga is surrounded on all sides by mountains. The most prominent of all is "Lookout Mountain" which towers some hundred feet above its companions. It well deserves the title of "Lookout,"

2015.001.050(2)

as once gaining the top (which is no easy job) you can look, in any direction, as far as the eye can reach without meeting any obstacle you can look over the top of the other mountains, which are of no mean dimensions. Next - in height - comes "Signal" Mountain, it derives its name from there being a "Signal Station" on its very crest, then comes "Missionary Ridge," said ridge extending up the Tennessee River as far as the eye can reach.

Our Battery (the 20th Ohio is encamped about a quarter of a mile from the center of Chattanooga on the bank of the Tennessee. We are stationed here for the defence of the place. We have a very nice camping ground where we receive the full benefit of the river breeze, which is very comfortable in the day but rather cool at night, in fact cooler than is agreeable.

Chattanooga shows the effects of the armies, being first occupied by the "Rebs," who commenced the work of destruction, then by the union army who have finished that which the "Rebs" left undone, not a rod of fence is to be seen. The seats have been taken out of the churches, and the churches themselves are being used for storing ammunition, rations and clothing.

If you deem it proper I shall be pleased to open a correspondence with you for the improvement of myself and, perhaps, you can find some enjoyment in so doing. I know I shall.

Yours sincerely
George L. Young

2015.001.050(3)

P.S. If you should think favorably of my proposition and wish to answer this you will Please address in this wise:

George L. Young
20th Ohio Battery
Chattanooga Tenn.

2nd P.S. Enclosed you will find my beautiful Phiz which I take the liberty of sending you.
G.L.Y.