

July 2, 1910.

on a panic and has injured thousands of men. He is now back in this country and I am afraid of his influence. The first thing he has recommended in politics was the change of the laws for primaries in this state and he and Governor Hughes, Taft and Root all recommended the change and they all have been defeated and I am glad of it. I am as good a Republican as I ever was but I do not like demagogues and men preaching to the galleries and thoughtless masses and bringing panics on the country. We all want a chance to live and be prosperous and take good care of our families. I am afraid that this fall the Republican party will be defeated. Some of the head officers in the party ought to retire and Roosevelt is one of them. I think Mr. Taft is an honest man but weak and vacillating with too many schemes which are impracticable and I fear it will cause the defeat of the Republican party.

I hope this letter will find you improving and I wish you to feel that I am thankful for your writing me the dates and what occurred on them. My memory now is not as good as it was twenty years ago. I kept a memorandum for several years but when we left our baggage behind us and started on the march to Richmond you will remember our baggage was all lost and my memorandum was lost with it and therefore I do not remember the exact dates of the different battles and have done nothing to revive my memory. I remember a little incident that occurred in the second Battle of the Wilderness. Your gun got dirty in shooting so much and the ramrod became fast in it and you could not pull it out. I told you to jam it against a tree and try to force the bullet down. In your excitement, when the enemy was shooting at us very actively and the bullets flying all around us, you broke the ramrod off and was helpless and cried like a child you were so excited. I told you to wait a little while and I thought you could get a gun. Some poor fellow was shot in a few minutes and you took his gun and was shooting away like a little hero. That incident is very fresh in my mind. Those were stirring days and we all shared our portion of the danger. You always were a good soldier while I was a member of the 91st and you did your duty as honestly as any young man could do ~~it~~ and I have often thought of you but I have forgotten the names of most of the boys.

With kindest regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,

