



Scene in the woods on  
the peninsula - told me  
by Milton Roberts, and G.  
(Maine)

after the battle of White  
Oaks church, on the retreat  
the march at night - the  
scene between 12 & 2 o'clock  
that night at the church  
in the woods, the hospitals  
show at night, the wounded  
brought in - previous  
the silent stealth march  
through the woods, at  
times stumbling over the  
bodies of dead men  
in the road, (there had  
been terrible fighting there

that  
the day, only closing at  
dark) — we retreat  
the <sup>artillery</sup> horses feet muffled  
orders that men should  
tread light & not speak  
in whispers —

Then between <sup>midnight</sup> 12 &  
1 o'clock we halted to  
rest a couple of hours  
at an opening in the  
woods — in this opening  
was a pretty good sized  
old church used ~~improvised~~  
impromptu for a hospital  
for the wounded of the

battles of the day  
thereabout — with these  
it was filled, all varieties  
horrible beyond description  
— the darkness dimly  
— lit with candles, lamps  
torches, more about  
but dark but plenty of  
darkness & half darkness  
— the crowds of wounded  
blood & pale the  
surgeons operate —  
the yards outside  
also filled — they lay  
on the ground, some  
on stray planks, or

3165  
— The deep despairing  
screams & curses of some  
the murky darkness the great  
out of the senses, the smoke  
doctors operate, the sound  
of chloroform, the glisten  
of the steel instruments as  
the flash of lamps fell  
upon them

at  
— after ~~stretcher~~  
there was a very large  
barn & farm house  
— the barn was filled  
with wounded, & the  
barn yard, & the  
farm house as full  
as it could stock

— a peaceful barn,  
<sup>now closed</sup>  
the fragrant hay they  
used to place the men  
on for operations — they  
turned the cattle out of  
their stalls