

RegionIX Education Cooperative

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Stones River National Battlefield

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Regimental File Donation Form

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Significant Person's Name: Charles H. Atkins + John W. Foreman

Unit: 2nd Arkansas Mounted Rifles 4th Arkansas Infantry

List Contents of Donation Below:

Misc. papers and pictures

Manuscript version of typescript letter already in folder and other new materials

INFORMATION ON CHARLES H. ATKINS, 1ST SGT, CO G, 2ND ARK MOUNTED RIFLES. HE DIED OF WOUNDS AT STONES RIVER. I GAVE YOU OTHER INFORMATION ON HIM WHILE I WAS THERE. HE WAS MY GREAT, GREAT GRANDFATHER
GARY

1861

Camp on Shoal Creek Mo. Sept 22
My Dear Silvia

Your long looked
for & thine welcome letter was received
a few days ago and nothing could have
gave me more pleasure at the time it
brought many things to my mind that
I had entirely forgotten and before I
had closed reading it I was bathing it
in tears. Could you and all our friends at
home know how much pleasure it was
for us to hear from you I am sure
you would write oftener than you do
I was sorry to hear that you had been
sick and I was not there to wait
upon you and to kiss your parched lips
Julia I love you better than I ever did
in my life and would give any thing
on earth for a few moments conversation
with you to tell you of my troubles &
hardships I have endured since I
bed you adieu but it is impossible at this
time. you spoke of coming to see me if it
was possible. I know you cannot come
now if there was any possible chance

you may depend that I would leave
no means untid to accomplish it.

I do not know when we will leave this
Camp but when we do I suppose we will
go on down to the Arkansas Riv. we have
stoped here for what purpose I cannot tell
unless it is to wait for the Sect to come
up which is behind there is some one
or two behind that is not able to
travel. Capt Gamble from Washington
died a few days ago & one of our Company
also died about the same time. William
Wright a Son of Uncle Armos Wright of
Sevier County I wrote to you that White
was killed on the battle field at the river
I wrote we had heard that it was the
Case but found out it was a mistake
though shot through the back of the head
with a musket ball he is recovering,
you wrote you had not seen anything
larger than a drum brice I left I am
very sorry that I cannot send you some
money. but have not drawn any pay yet
and do not believe there is ten dollars in
the Company our Capt tells us that as
soon as we get to head quarters which
is near the Ark Riv. we will draw

all that is due us, and you may rest assured that I will send you all that I can which will be fifty or seventy five dollars, and more if I can we have no war news only what you have already heard we hardly ever get a newspaper and when we do it is as old, as the hills; I wish I could get the S. W. Democrat any week but then it would take so long to get it here the news would not be interesting or of great concerning home

you speak of having my Ambrotype to look at - and showing them over it - oh that I had yours & my sweet little Fannie to look at - I know that I would bath them in tears for the thought almost makes me cry I want you to send yours & Little Fannie when Brown comes back

Tell Miss Fannie that I am very much obliged to her for the few lines she dropped in your letter I will write to her in a few days & give her a description of the ladies of this country. there was a Ball given in Town last night - I did not go myself, for I could not -

enjoy my self and think of you at home. you wanted me to tell you who it was that ran of from the battle field. I cannot say for their minds would think hard of me it is Sunday and we are all going to preaching.

Maj Brown starts in the morning for Sevier County. for our clothing I want you to make about two Suits of heavy clothing, and two lousy shirts, our Suits will do if you have not time to make more. though I hope I will be at home before I have much use for them write a long letter to me by Lewis when he returns tell all my friends to write I must close may god help you and be with you til I return good bye Remember me & believe as ever your affectionate husband forever

Chas H. Atkins

Little Rock Ark
April 8th 1862

My Dear Julia
My Dear Julia

No doubt you will

be surprised to receive a letter from me at this place but such is war. Camp one night at one place and in all probability start at day break to some unknown part of the world. that you had never dreamt of going to before. We arrived at this City about 3 o'clock this evening. The boys in fine spirits there about four thousand troops. in all there they will take up the line of march in the morning for Sural's Bluff on White River. our Regiment will not start before the day after tomorrow being as our train mules and all very much broke down from hard marching. Some we left Van Buren

I have very little news to give you. even our Colonel has not the remotest idea of the object of this grand move of all the Army. unless it is to reinforce Gen. Bean's guard who is now at Island No. 10 on the Mississippi River fighting the Federals every day. Gen. Prentiss is also moving in

the direction of White River in advance of
the direction of White River in advance of
us there is no forces left on the borders
of this State unless it is Gen. Pike's Command
The supposition of a great many men is that
we are going to the Mississippi River, and there
the decisive battle will be fought.

Some I have seen writing news has been
brought in to camp that the Federals
have been in Van Buren & Ft. Smith
since we left. I cannot hardly believe it
though it may be possible. I have also
just learned that a dispatch was received
here this evening stating that there was
fighting going on at Ball's Bluff
above Memphis, and that our men were
repulsing the enemy.

Dear Lucia it looks
as if our prospects was very dark at
this time and that our country was to be
over run with northern devils. but I think
unfamiliar in the South (I mean the extreme
South) may just contented for before
Southern men will permit their soil to be
disgraced by Federal troops. Southern streams
will flow with blood - Rogston McAten
who was wounded at the battle of Sugar
Creek died a few days ago. his leg was
amputated just below the knee. he only

lived a few days after the operation was
performed. Two of our company, who
as as taken prisoner at the battle made
their escape, and got me to camp this evening.

Mr. Bird says he has not time to write
now but will try first chance he has.
James & myself have all been sick
they have not been past traveling. I was
hauled three days in an ambulance.

I have been improving for several days
and at this time feel very well, but con-
siderable reduced. So we are all three in
what I would call good health at this
time.

Do not send any more letters to me
directed to Ft. Smith, as it will be impossible
for me to get them, and for what I know
may fall into the hands of the Dutch
for them to laugh over, as soon as I
can learn where we will stop I will let
you know. I will also write every chance
I have, and give you all the news I can
write to me every chance you have of sending
me a letter. I would be glad to hear from
you every week if I could - I must close
for I have already written more than
I expected when I commenced, and
and your Pa and James are both

a sleep in the tent and morning worse
a sleep in the tent and morning worse
than a forty horse power engine -
Give my love to Miss Fannie and all the
family. Kiss little Fannie & Emma, and
for you the best wishes of an absent
but devoted husband - pleasant dreams
to you to night - my dear I must go
to bed, good-by,

C. H. Atkins

Camp near Groden In
Nov 16th 1863

Dear Julia

I write you a
second letter. ^{My other} I write you a
second letter. ^{the other} has been written
several days and I have added
several days. and I have added
to it until it would be hard
to send it - would be hard
for you to understand the last part
of it when I first wrote it I thought
I could send it by Fitzgerald
and about that time James King
obtained a Furlough on Surgeon's
certificate of disability. It was sent
up to Anderson and he would not
sign it. By this time Fitzgerald was
gone. So I had not sent my letter
yet. So yesterday there was an order
to send one from every company
to take their own money home
and Harry Perry was the one
sent from this company. The money
I send you can use it to the
best advantage buy whatever you
best advantage by what ever you

Sweet little children to my bosom
Sweet little children to my bosom -
If I have ^{new} written any thing in
my previous letters that has offended
you let me ask your forgiveness for
sometimes I will ^{state} my self
to write to you and in ^{read} time
to write to you and in ^{read} time
two months there will be ^{for} ^{maybe} half
a dozen around ^{me} ^{that} ^{is}
almost ^{impossible} ^{to} ^{write} ^{by} ^I ^{hope}
I have not been ^{guilty} ^{of} ^{writing}
any thing that has been ^{known} ^{to} ^{you}
James has got another ^{fever} ^{for}
30 days. I do not know ^{whether} ^{he} ^{will}
get to come home or not.
Give ^{the} ^{money} ^{you} ^{received} - for the
Giv. H. Perry you accept for the
money ^{though} ^I ^{mentioned}
that ⁱⁿ ^{my} ^{other} ^{letter}
You ^{are} ^{to} ^{all} ^{my} ^{friends}
and for your self ^{the} ^{best}
of your affectionate ^{husband}
of your affectionate ^{husband}
W. A. Atkins
and James A. Atkins

You think you will not

get money from the government

and I guess we will draw

again between me and Christmas

I will have on Christmas

of go to work if I have an opportunity

We will lead here in a few days

for credit for the unemployment

of the Department of the Treasury

read the book (McLean) say that

as soon as we want - interest

the we could be sent from

I hope it may be

for our own benefit, I don't think it

There is no news of importance here

when to go on course of improvement

every body want here from home

and get some of our goods

at 15 cents for one say at a rate

time to work here you may demand

that I will make use of that

what I will make for nothing in health

would give me more pleasure than to

would you on these things

see you and to help you and my

Camp
Camp

Camp near Rea Tenn.
Camp near Ridenville Tenn.
Dec. 13th 1862

Dear Julia

I have an opportunity of sending
 a letter to you or that is of sending it to Polk
 County Ark and it can be sent by mail from
 there. I have no news to write that would interest
 you. War war with all its horrid attendants - is all
 that looms up as far as our short visions may
 penetrate. A gloomy prospect indeed but I live in
 hopes that it will in some way or other work
 for our own good. The man, daddy of our army
 is now encamped at this place and Manufacturing
 about 12 miles from here. The Gankies are at and
 near Nashville a distance of 35 miles from this
 place. Strongly fortified so said. There is skirmishing
 every day. down about Nashville and our army
 has within the last few days captured several
 thousand prisoners. There is no telling how
 the two armies will be brought together. We have
 if we have them to fight. I hope we may be able
 to give them a good thrashing. We have no news
 from the Army in Virginia nor from Gen Paine's
 forces but I should suppose they were doing the
 best they can. It was reported here some time
 ago that Gen Holmes & his command was crossing
 the Mississippi River. I hope this is not true.
 I think they ought to stay and guard our
 own State and Texas. I wish our division
 could have the pleasure of attending to the Gankies
 over them in Ark and Missouri. I think we
 could set them back beyond the limits of our
 own State at least if not through Missouri.

The health of our Regiment is tolerable good. There
The health of our Regiment is tolerable good. There
is not a man reported sick in our company
is not a man reported sick in our company
there is three or four absent sick I do not know
there is three or four absent sick I do not know
whether they have got well or did not of our
whether they have got well or did not of our
company has died recently Sol Reno & Romf Sanders
company has died recently Sol Reno & Romf Sanders
you was not acquainted with either though Capt
you was not acquainted with either though Capt
did know. I do not know what was
did know. I do not know what was
the disease they died with as I was not with them
the disease they died with as I was not with them
My health was never better than at this time. Ias P
My health was never better than at this time. Ias P
has got about well again Jas & next Part. are
has got about well again Jas & next Part. are
both in good health. I have not had a letter
both in good health. I have not had a letter
from you since Hill came back and it does
from you since Hill came back and it does
look like I cannot get to hear from you.
look like I cannot get to hear from you.
I cannot promise you when I will get to come
I cannot promise you when I will get to come
home. The prospect for it looks very gloomy at this
home. The prospect for it looks very gloomy at this
time, but I hope it may brighten soon. Some how
time, but I hope it may brighten soon. Some how
or other it seems to me or I have gotten up the
or other it seems to me or I have gotten up the
idea that all is not going on well with you. but I
idea that all is not going on well with you. but I
hope my imaginations are groundless. I hope you
hope my imaginations are groundless. I hope you
will not let an opportunity pass without writing to me
will not let an opportunity pass without writing to me
The money I sent you by Henry Penny you can buy
The money I sent you by Henry Penny you can buy
meat & flour with and as soon as I have
meat & flour with and as soon as I have
another chance I will try to send you more
another chance I will try to send you more
I will not attempt to give you a description of our
I will not attempt to give you a description of our
travels since we left. We have been marching
travels since we left. We have been marching
for the last three weeks through snow & mud and over
for the last three weeks through snow & mud and over
frozen ground and a great many of the men nearly bare
frozen ground and a great many of the men nearly bare
footed & some entirely so. but yet they seldom
footed & some entirely so. but yet they seldom
frost & some entirely so. but yet they seldom
frost & some entirely so. but yet they seldom
I will bring my letter to a close. May the god
I will bring my letter to a close. May the god
of Heaven protect you & your little children
of Heaven protect you & your little children
I remain as ever your affectionate husband
I remain as ever your affectionate husband

Charlie Atkins
Charlie Atkins