

Before Spotsylvania C. H.
May 18 1864

To His Excellency
Gov. Comy
Governor

I have the honor to recommend
the following officers for promotion
I do this at the present time
to secure to deserving men
positions which the casualties
of this Campaign may otherwise
prevent their receiving.

I would recommend
1st Lieut Weston A. Keene of Co "D",
the Captain of Co "A" vice Morell
killed in battle.

2^d Lieut. William K. Pickens of "H"
the 1st Lieut. of Co "H" vice Morell
promoted.

I Lieut. Airam Morse of "I"
to be 1st Lieut. of Co "I" vice
Linscott killed in battle.

Our chaplain has not yet
reported.

We advanced our lines
half a mile last evening with
little loss.

I write this as we
are lying in line of battle
behind our rifle pit works not
more than 600 or 800 yards
from the enemys works.

We have been exposed to a
heavy cannonading all this
morning, but the 20th has as
yet lost only one man - Au-
gustus Ellis of Co "D" severely
wounded in head. We are
expecting a warm engagement.

I had a hard time to get
relieved from that Coast Battalion
out & rejoin my command.
The week of active operations
when I was kept out of the
field was one of the most
unhappy of my life. I am
making up for it now however.

Major Shear is in actual
command of the 20th still, at my
return I was placed
temporarily in charge of the
Brigade - Gen Bartlett being
sick.

The artillery fire is very
hot now. Shells are bursting
over us every second. The
Brigade is losing men
fast.

Lee is holding us very
stiffly. We are not pushing
him in front, but are moving

to turn his right & that of
course bring us nearer to
Richmond.

There is no discount
on your main man.

as respectfully
your friend
& servt.

J. L. Chamberlain
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Let commissions issue
as requested

~~Comm. of the~~

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you



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May 18. 64

of J. L. Chamberlain 20. 000