

This letter by William A. Chunn of Cassville, GA to his wife, Lila, was written while serving in the Georgia State Troops before enlisting in the 40th GA Infantry Regiment, Co. I.

Scriven P.O Georgia
Sep 8, 61

My dear Lila,

I have at last pitch my tent in the wilderness of Georgia where nothing is to be seen but pine trees, dwarf palms & wire grass. You can not image what _____ feeling crept over the spirit of my dreams. When I heard the low murmuring sound of the sea breeze rustling through the forrest I truly experienced the better draught of meloncholy. But uason has again claimed her sway and I am again a man determined to forgo the pleasures of home and friends for a while to benefit the interest of my country. Although we are in the midst of a vast forest a healthier place for an encampment could not have been picked out. Nothing unusual happened on our trip save the unusual profusion of ladies smiles hearty cheers and gift of boquette I never saw a set of boys enjoy themelves better in my life, they were hollowing and waving handkerchiefs the whole time. We staid in Macon four or five hours. I took advantage of the time to view the city. I think that it is beautiful laid off. We passed through the city of Savannah. The view I have gave me a very unfavorable opinion of it there is no wonder that there is so much sickness--for all the filth of the houses is thrown into the streets.

What will the people think of our company now that it is mustered into service. do you think they will cease to scandalize us. or will they keep up the same old ... giving now and then a quaint variation. God pity the enemies of our country but save us from some of its friends.

Yours -- in love,
Willie