

7-24-1864

Letter: W.E. Johnson to Anne Johnson, July 24, 1864.

W.E. Johnson
Confederate States Army

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Fort Delaware Del Officers Prism July 24th 1864

My dear Wife

I have written you many letters since I have been a prisoner & have some hope that you have received some of them by this time as I hear communication by flag of truce has been opened. I am afraid you have suffered much anxiety about me not knowing whether I was killed or captured & hope this if mother letter has reached you will relieve your anxiety about me. I was captured in the first fight we got into after skirmishing with the enemy a long time. we were ordered to fall back owing to the approach in larger force. I was at the rear of our co & being very thirsty went into a ravine which had water in it intending ^{and} to get some ~~water~~ to go up it & regain the co but found the misty trees so thick I could not do so & by the time I could return to where I went in the enemy were upon me on both sides & I was obliged to surrender. I knew they had flanked us upon our right but had no idea they were pressing so closely in our rear. You can imagine my distress & mortification when I found I was a prisoner by such an accident just as I had got into a position as an officer in a fine co to be of some credit to myself, that ^{the} knowledge that you may be in great distress about adds much to my unhappy condition. It seems that I have been doomed to much unhappiness in the last six months of my life & probably for a long time to come. I will try to bear it in a proper spirit & as coming from the "Giver of all good". I find from time to time of complete misery. W P Bonney, St L M Bonney, (Gladdens Grove) Capt C J Hale, Capt W Stewart (Lancaster) are here as well as a large number of the best men of country, write me often, whether you think the letters will reach me or not & send me money if possible. I have received some from one of Father's friends & living tolerably well at this time, address me St W C Johnson Prism of war Fort Delaware Del. by flag of truce with United States & confederate States postage stamps on envelopes. Broth'l can get you some US stamps probably from my box to Father Mother Brother Dennis & all. May God bless you I will write often Your devoted Husband W C Johnson Jr 7th 88 C

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Mrs W E Johnson