

Camp in the field before Petersburg Va. Nov 27<sup>th</sup> 1868  
To the Warrenton Express.

On the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) at about  
4 o'clock we were wakened out of our comfort-  
able bed by very sharp and rapid picket  
firing a little to our right near Fort Hill.

It soon became a general action and for 4 1/2  
hours the battle raged with great fury. At one  
time there was a fair prospect of the fight  
extending the whole length of the line of the  
9<sup>th</sup> Corps and all necessary preparations were  
made to repel any attack that might be  
made. The attack was made by the enemy.  
They surprised our pickets by pretending to be ar-  
rivers bringing in their guns. As soon as they  
got in the rear of our pickets they turned upon  
them and made them prisoners. They rushed  
forward and captured our fort and two batteries  
and about 300 prisoners. Before any alarm was  
given, the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of the 9<sup>th</sup> Corps held this  
part of the line. But their success was of short  
duration. The 3<sup>d</sup> Div of the 9<sup>th</sup> Corps being in senior  
command by Genl Hartranft came up and  
surrounded the rebels and captured them in a