

Camp Winfield Scott April 7, '62

My darling wife

We had a hard engagement yesterday - the Vt. brigade & the Artillery only were engaged on our side - The rebels were building a new battery on foot that would trouble us much when we should get ready for our grand attack so we thought best to stop them - Meath's battery was the first to engage them & soon drove them from their works & guns. It was a sharp Artillery action -

Meath lost 7 men in a very few minutes but the rest stood firm & the result was glorious - Genl Smith remained in his battery till the enemy were so distracted that they lost their range (which was perfect at first, every shell bursting in our midst) then their shells went just over our heads. I was with the General all the while & can testify to his coolness & courage. After the firing ceased Genl. McClellan came up & shook hands with all of Meath's men & complimented him & them very highly - He & Genl Smith had a long consultation & just after noon