

Near Richmond Va
July 9th 1862

Brother Marcus & Sister Catherine,

I seize the first opportunity to offer you my sincere and heartfelt sympathy in your affection over the loss of your boy, He too was my boy, for since he has served with me in the army I have come to love him as my own child.

He bore the sacrifices and fatigues of campaign with a fortitude worthy the example of men. In the day of battle, in front of the finest fire of the enemy he displayed the coolness and courage of the veteran soldier.

I could dwell upon many of his virtues, but it is not the object of this communication. I [?]... but I could not refrain from shedding a tear with you over the grave of our dear boy.

Fred Wimberly telegraphed to you the news of his death. He fell in the battle of Coal Harbor on Gam's Mill, The intelligence first reached me that he was wounded in the hand and that he has gone to the hospital on the rear – I felt relieved that he should get off with so slight an injury. Early next morning I was shocked and grieved to learn that he was dead upon the battle field_ it id thought by many of his regiment that he was shot by our own men as he was making his was off there being a regiment in rear of ours, which fired into us once or twice. This plausible as the fatal wound was in the Breast. He may however have receive that as he turned to look back upon the field.

He was buried near where he fell and I told Fred Wimberly to see that some marker was left to distinguish his grave.

May God bless you both and strengthen your hearts to support this great affliction.

Yours truly in sorrow

A. H. Colquitt