



*Mrs S. H. Dent
Eufaula
Alabama*



The London & Lancashire Insurance Co. Ltd.
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EASTERN DEPARTMENT, HARTFORD, CONN.

E. Y. DENT, AGENT
EUFAULA, ALA.

In re the old stamped and addressed envelope enclosed herewith.

The letter it enclosed was written by my father, Capt. S. H. Dent, to my mother as per address. Letter dated July 7th 1864 and location Dent's Battery, Johnson's Army.

At that date the Union and Confederate armies were facing each other; the latter trying to keep the former out of Atlanta.

It tells that had completed building fortifications and letter written behind the earth works - that they were built under a heavy shell fire with one man killed, one severely wounded, and an other slightly wounded. (Guess we can easily surmise that there was no "sit-down" strike there.) Notes how badly the battery was in need of men - that nearly 60% of those originally enlisted - he was not Captain then - were gone, and several of those then on duty were partly incapacitated from previous wounds. Of course had received some recruits, but they also were scarce as he notes how war had taken its toll.

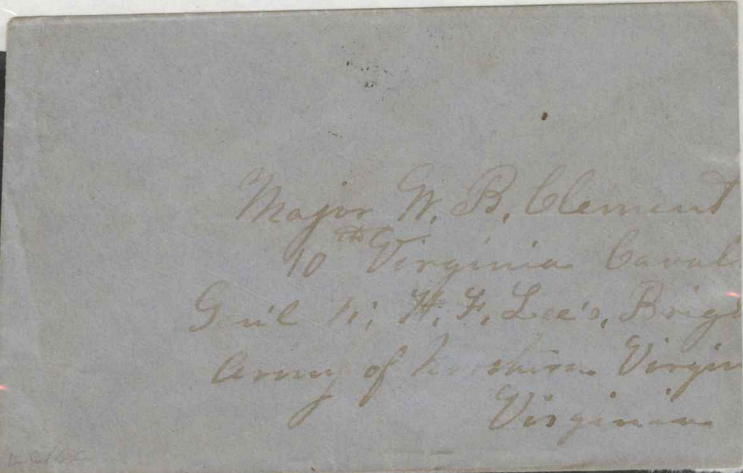
Like with men, ammunition was also scarce and they had orders not to fire unless could see some thing at which to aim, tho under an almost continuous shell fire themselves. The attrition eventually told.

Paper was a scarce article in this section in 1864 and all kinds of blank paper were put to use. The envelope was made by my mother, and one may note material used.

E. Y. Dent

Eufaula, Ala.

EXAMPLES OF CONFEDERATE COVERS: Sending letters between the soldiers at the war front and the families at home was very important but also extremely difficult. Postage was expensive and paper of any quality was hard to find.



Major W. B. Clement
10th Virginia Cavalry
Co. 11; H. F. Lee's, Brigade
Army of Northern Virginia
Virginia



17th July 1864

- dearest -

The last letter

my dear
William

10

Berkley Gumball Esqr

Spartanburg

over Spartanburg

Later letter
Wm Gumball
Esqr



534

2
2
This letter was rec^d
on Thursday morning
20th July, after the Cars
had left for Calicut -

The train on that morn-
ing met with an ac-
cident, which prevented
its return till Saturday
morning 8.0 O'Clock.

I left for Calicut at
an hour after a word
and before the mails
which ~~it~~ it had
brought, which were de-
livered -

After the train had
left for Calicut I rec^d
a letter from my old friend
Bentley Williams, telling
me that William was
the writer of the above letter.

Jr Eggleston - Signal Corps -

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Mrs. E. P. Eggleston

Lexington

Polk County Va