

Company K - Infantry  
American E. F. France.  
July 19, <sup>th</sup>. 1918

Mrs Wiley C. Bissett  
New Bern N.C.

My dear Mrs Bissett:

Since coming into the service  
in 1914 we have had varied ex-  
periences, disappointments, encouragement  
little real pleasure and some  
sorrow but the greatest sorrow  
has just come to this company

in the death of "Cliff." It is true that he has not been with ~~the~~ company since his promotion but we claim him just the same, and thinking that you would find consolation in this great loss to know that it was possible to bring his body out of the firing line and give him a Christian burial, we write you.

He was killed yesterday morning (July 18<sup>th</sup>) at about 5:00 o'clock during a very severe battle.



He died as he has lived since we first knew him, as a soldier "in line of duty." There was no suffering, he simply passed out from the living soldier to the reward of a Christian Soldier having always done his duty.

His body was brought back of the lines last night and today the older members of this company with Capt.

Giddens and Lieute W.H. and W.E. Dunn (his old friends) went to the plot assigned

to the U.S. Army and Sgts. Dempsey, Norton, Hibbard, Whickard, Cpls Aycock, Norton, Fenell, Strickland, Cooper,

Avery, Williams and Bugler Claud Williams and priv. J. H. Barnes prepared his grave. Our regimental Chaplain Capt. Robeson reading the burial service after which Bugler Claud Williams blew "Taps" the grave was closed and as the roar of the enemy artillery pealed forth their challenges, we left the sacred place and returned to our posts of duty where we shall cause the enemy to repay many times the loss he has caused.

We grieve with you and shall always remember "Cliff."

Company K. 100

Capt. Lewis D. Giddens