

The following are excerpts from letters owned by Roy Brewer of Fort Worth, Texas. They belonged to his great grandfather, Lt. Stephen Wiley Brewer, 26 Reg. NCT, Co. E, in the weeks following the Battle of New Bern, March 14, 1862 Both were addressed to his friend, business partner (a store at Harpers Crossroads in Chatham County) and lodge brother, R. B. Paschal, Mt. Vernon, Chatham County, who was then the Chatham County Sheriff, and would later become S. W. Brewer's father in law. Brewer's parents, Jeremiah and Nancy Bray Brewer, lived at that time on lands immediately north of the present day Fall Creek Baptist Church. Mr. Brewer has given the 26NCT website permission to publish these letters. He requests that any other researchers or writers wishing to quote them contact him at [RBrewerJr@aol.com](mailto:RBrewerJr@aol.com) to seek further permission.

**Kinston NC  
March 19 1862**

**Dear Sir**

***The Battle has been fought at newbern and (sic) are defeated but haven't lost a man  
But we have lost ever thing that had only what we had on I lost my Trunk and all my  
clothes I was ordered on Picket on wednesday night and when I return to the Camp they  
was forming in line of Battle I went right in and I havent seen the Camp since...***

***Sheriff I want you to send me some shirts if there is any at the store and tell ma to send  
me some drawers and blankets....***

***Sheriff I hope you will come and see us soon  
I will close by saying that we are all here  
yours truly  
S W Brewer  
I am not out of fight yet  
I feel as much like fighting now as ever***

**Headquarters 26 Reg NC  
April 1st 1862**

**Dear Friend**

***To fulfill my promise I avail myself of a few moments of time to let you know where we are  
and how we are getting along. there is some of our company left at Kinston very sick/ we  
have more sick now then we ever had since we left home. we have several sick in camp  
we have some ten or twelve in Kinston then we have (them) from here home I never expect  
to see them all together again. Sheriff we are stationed five miles below Kinston on the  
north sid (sic) of the railroad some two hundred yards from the road....we left our camp  
that morning after you left and went to Kinston. we stayed untill next day 12 oclock and  
(then) re'd marching orders and came to this place sunday evening our comany & 4 others  
was sent off as picketts and ( ?) returned last night to to our camp but dont no (sic) that  
we will remain any length of time here but if we dont stay here we will be on the road  
between here and Newbern. we are preparing (sic) to retake Newbern but dont no when....  
I think in a few days for the Troops are all ordered down here... and when they all come  
we will have a lively time I dont think there is room from Kinston to Newbern for all the  
Troops of course when ever we start to Newbern it will be a cerious (?) time but I hope and  
trust that Old 26 wont be cut all to pieces in the next fight as they were in the Battle at  
Woods Brick yard Burnside says that we killed forty seven hundred of his men and if we  
did I think did well to loose no more than we did***

*Sheriff I was hurt very bad when you left for I did not no that I would see again ( ?) and if I never see your face again my best wishes is with you....A few words to Mrs. Paschal*

*Allow me to express my heartfelt thanks for the many evidences you have given of an earnest Desire to relieve me of suffering by supplying my temporal wants..I trust I shall live long enough to prove myself worthy of such careful kindness...I am well We are advancing on the enemy and in good spirits*

*I remain as ever  
your friend  
S. W. Brewer*

*Adrefs Kinston  
26 Reg NC Co E*