

CW/VFM-132: Oscar Baumes 123rd New York Infantry, Co A

Baumes was born on May 16th 1846, who served in the 123rd New York Infantry, Co A at the age of 16. His first battle, Chancellorsville, would be his last when he was killed in action 15 days before his 17th birthday. The 123rd New York fought at the prominent battles of Chancellorsville (5/1-5/1863) and Gettysburg (7/1-3/1863).

Letters from Baumes to Family and Friends:

2/9/1862: General letter to his sister discussing his health and the aggravations of camp life. He discusses men having to march long distances on nothing but crackers after sleeping in the rain. He thinks he can stand it though, especially since he believes that he will be home in a few months; if not before.

Photocopy: 2pp. (2 copies)

4/11: A letter checking in with everyone, telling them briefly about camp life.

Photocopy: 2pp.

9/10: He wrote this letter while he was camped in Washington, D.C, and gave a brief account of what the city is like and the amount of marching they had to do to get there.

Photocopy: 2pp.

Biographical information on Baumes 1pp.

Photo from Find-a-Grave of Baumes 1pp.

Keywords: Union – East – New York – 123rd; Letters; Pictures – Photographs; Army - Infantry; Soldier – Privates;

Location: Civil War Vertical File Manuscripts, Special Collections & College Archives, Musselman Library at Gettysburg College.

See also: [Civil War Sources in Special Collections](#)