THE UNION LEAGUE CLUB

New York. Apl 30, 1885

Geo. A. Sanders Esq

Dear George

As suggested in yours of 23d inst I send you enclosed a photograph of myself taken during the war,

My participation in the Vicksburg campaign was brief. — In the Spring of 1863 I was in command of a Cavalry Brigade, stretched along the railway running East from Memphis, some 50 miles to Grand Junction. Tenn; & charged with the protection of this railway &c,

By order of Genl Grant I left this command to report to Genl McClernand, then commanding the 13th Army Corps, in the movement just commenced on Vicksburg, I reached McClernand only after his Corps had crossed the Mississippi & reported to him about the 14th of May, I was assigned to duty as

chief of his staff. On the 16th of May was
fought the battle of "Champions Hill", in which
were engaged the corps of McPherson & McCler-
nand — the 16th (I think) & 13th, The enemy were
beaten, & that night we camped near "Edwards
Station", before daylight of the 17th we were
marching toward Black river, distant 6 miles,
There we found the enemy in force, Our
corps attacked & soon drove the enemy from
their works, capturing a large number in
their intrenchments. During the attack
General Osterhaus was slightly wounded &
taken from the field, I was ordered to
take command of his division,

The night was largely passed in building a
bridge across the Black river, & the next
day we marched into Vicksburg,

The 13th Corps was assigned place on the left
of the line of investment, On the morning
of the 19th Osterhaus resumed command of
his division & I was placed in command
of one of its brigades,

That morning, the 19th May, Grant ordered
his forces to gain positions as close as

possible to the enemy's works, until 2 P.M. when at an Artillery signal a general charge should be made along the line.

The works were very strong & the approach was over hills & through sharp ravines, obstructed by fallen trees, stakes &c &c.

At the signal my brigade moved forward in the face of a fire of musketry which became more severe as we approached the works. I was on foot, & moved with the line — Our losses were very severe, & we could inflict no injury on the enemy. After an hour of such slow advance I was struck by a rifle ball in the right cheek. The ball dislodged a few teeth & passed out through the back of my neck. I was carried from the field; the next morning was placed on board a steamer, & with a surgeon & one of my staff, & a general cargo of wounded men started for Cairo.

I was only able to report for duty, the early part of July — reached Vicksburg about the middle of July, & soon after, in command of a division of the 13th

Army Corps, was sent to New Orleans to
report to Genl Banks.

So you see my connection with the
Vicksburg campaign was unfortunately
very brief – though lively while it lasted.

All of which is submitted for such
use as you may find best.

Yours sincerely
A. L. Lee

Brig Gen

A. L. Lee
Brig. Gen USA