



Scene in the woods on
the peninsula - told me
by Milton Roberts, and G.
(Maine)

after the battle of White
Oaks church, on the retreat
the march at night - the
scene between 12 & 2 o'clock
that night at the church
in the woods, the hospitals
show at night, the wounded
brought in - previous
the silent stealth march
through the woods, at
times stumbling over the
bodies of dead men
in the road, (there had
been terrible fighting there

that
the day, only closing at
dark) — we retreat
the ^{artillery} horses feet muffled
orders that men should
tread light & not speak
in whispers —

Then between ^{midnight} 12 &
1 o'clock we halted to
rest a couple of hours
at an opening in the
woods — in this opening
was a pretty good sized
old church used ~~improvised~~
impromptu for a hospital
for the wounded of the

battles of the day
thereabout — with these
it was filled, all varieties
horrible beyond description
— the darkness dimly
— lit with candles, lamps
torches, more about
but dark but plenty of
darkness & half darkness
— the crowds of wounded
blood & pale the
surgeons operate —
the yards outside
also filled — they lay
on the ground, some
on stray planks, or

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— The deep despairing
screams & curses of some
the murky darkness the great
out of the senses, the smoke
doctors operate, the sound
of chloroform, the glisten
of the steel instruments as
the flash of lamps fell
upon them

at
— after ~~stretcher~~
there was a very large
barn & farm house
— the barn was filled
with wounded, & the
barn yard, & the
~~farm~~ house as full
as it could stock

— a peaceful barn,
^{now closed}
the fragrant hay they
used to place the men
on for operations — they
turned the cattle out of
their stalls