Gen. Hardee says he never saw the Cadets at West-Point drill better. They could go through the "manual" to perfection. I think however that our Division is drilled better than Breckenridge's. It was reported in camps several days ago that Breckenridge's Div. had been ordered to Knoxville, to go up into Ky. but I do not believe the report. I would like to know for certain whether any portion of Longstreet's Corps is going up into Ky. I wish they would send some troops into Ky, & get into old Rosecrans's rear, & they would be leaving this country, & we would pull out after them. It snowed several days ago, & covered the ground

and we had quite an interesting battle I must tell you about. Soon in the morning we had been fighting first one company & then another, & had some exciting charges. We continued this way until about 10 O'c when we observed near our camp the whole Brigade advancing upon us in line of battle, with skirmishers in front. Nothing was left us but to rally all our forces & make a grand charge. They came prepared with plenty of ammunition, & we had to form in great haste. Our colors were brought out, & we started forward to the "dreadful" charge in fine style cheering as loud as we could. The Color bearer not being prudent enough dashes forward and our colors

are captured. Then the command is given "to charge" on our side, & we charge after their colors with a yell, but their color-bearer being very prudent marches to the rear in very "quick time" & we fail to capture. First one, & then the other would charge, & be driven back with the loss of prisoners on both sides. Thus the fortunes of the day were with one side then the other, we contending against great odds, finally I saw that we must charge, or lose the fight, so going ahead I encouraged them to charge but being in front I was made a prisoner & sent to the rear. My

side made a desperate at-
tempt to capture me, but
overpowered they failed.
The fight had now closed,
& was about a drawn
fight, tho' we had a larg-
er number of prisoners.
After the fight we sent over
a flag of truce to exchange
prisoners & thus the fight
closed. Thus you see
we have some interest-
ing times. I was wound-
ed in many places, & the
balls would made me
lose my head many a
time in the fight.
These sham battles are much
more interesting than the
real ones. I got the box from
Bob. Withers & am much
obliged to you for the cham-
pagne, which was very nice.