



Camp near Shelbyville Tenn  
Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 1865

My dear Darling

I arrived in Camp last night safe and sound - left Columbus on Friday morning and came directly through - I saw Alfred and Bob Lockhart after writing to you there - both well - Alfred working rather thin - a sign of his mother and sister much better - all are well - I made the connection at every point - at Chattanooga I met us with Mr Oliver Corrie and others - I found an officer in charge of the rear of the train whom I knew and he very kindly gave us all seats in the Ladies car. He was just turned a corner of Mays' side Gulch - about twenty miles this side of Chattanooga the rear car of our train ran off the track and turned a complete somersault down a bank about thirty feet high - It was full of soldiers - no one in the car seriously hurt - one man who was on the platform of the car in front of it seeing the car going in thinking his own would go attempted to get off by jumping - he fell and before he could get out of the way the car rolled over him and crushed him so badly that he was thought he would die - Fortunately I was in the front car - notwithstanding this we reached Macon at the junction of the Shelbyville road about one hour ago.

The usual times I saw Mr. Pope and Mr. Clayton the old lady in full uniform went inside the lines but Rosemary expressed her opinion to visit the hospital to see for Clayton and ordered her over of the line. They were waiting to see if they could not get a letter from him or about him. Did Mr. Potter succeed in finding his captives and did he get in the Yankee lines? I found the Company Camped in a mud hole - we have Corn to eat here except we have good water - Robertson is not with the Company he would have returned - but your father went off on leave to see his family - Tracy has never been to Richmond and is at Fullanoma - The Company lost in the night four men killed and fourteen wounded the slightest wound being a shot through the arm. There were five others with some slight scratches all the wounded are off at hospitals and gone home - John Gillespie a son of Mrs. James was wounded - I expect he will go to Sapsula - Joe Wilson who formerly enlisted for McDowell was also wounded. These are the only ones from that action - I have not seen Robertson yet. I expect he will be down this evening. He stays right in Shelbyville. It was raining last night when I received and very dark - consequently I could not see what sort of a place Shelbyville is - We are twenty-five miles from Murfreesboro and our pickets are eighteen miles from here. Come

quantity the number of my own men  
from Muskogee so far - I hear that Tracy  
has only twenty five thousand effective men  
and if that is so and I don't see where he can  
get more from I expect we will fall back as  
soon as the Yankees advance - but when they will  
advance seems doubtful - we have a good  
quantity supplies at Tallahoma - but only one day's  
rations up here - so you see we are certainly not  
going to try and hold this country - We are in advance  
of South river which was said to be our line of  
defense - I have seen no one out of the Company  
yet - This Sunday and I shall remain close in  
Camps - To-morrow I will stop round some  
I have a good quantity letters at home and will  
try and write them all up after a while -  
You may stir Mother up about my uniform  
I believe I cannot do better than take it -  
I must have something in the shape of a uni-  
form or I will be taken for a conscript - You  
can pay him I will send you five hundred  
dollars as soon as I draw my pay and think  
I can send it safely - I expect you can get  
by Branon to bring my uniform - He can  
buy it up and get transportation for the box  
from Lee Johnston having it marked "Soldier's  
Clothes" and then we will have no trouble  
with it - I left Thom Branon in Columbus  
I was right sick there Thursday evening and

Thought something of getting an excursion - but  
felt so much better when morning that I came  
on - The sun is out now freely and I hope it  
will dry up the mud and water some - well  
Darling I must hurry up - but as I can't mail  
this till the next in the morning I will finish  
this evening - well darling it is now Monday  
morning and I am about to finish this letter  
I am feeling very well - I had a long talk  
with Robertson yesterday evening in reference  
to the fight & a good many other things - He  
says the battery did not do as much  
service as the Murfreesboro fight as it did  
at Shiloh - but gets a good deal more credit  
for it - says it was a very hard fought  
battle - our loss in every thing about  
ten thousand - Genl Bragg does not win  
his real price however but he had only twenty-  
nine thousand infantry and artillery in the fight  
The enemy about seventy thousand - Bragg's  
army now is nearly as strong as before the  
fight - a good many of the officers are down  
on Bragg - and get a council of war advised  
the retreat seventy four hours before Bragg  
began it - I am afraid some trouble will  
grow up yet out of this thing - I will write  
you some particularly some future time - my  
love to all the family - I will write Ada and  
my young son - Tell Mollie her letter is  
delivered - good by Darling - much love  
and many kisses for you and the boy and  
tell him to be good and love Ma Ma and  
not forget Pa Pa - God bless and take  
care of you all Darling - your own  
old dear Herbert

Camp near Shelbyville Tenn  
Jany 25<sup>th</sup> 1863

My Own Darling –

I arrived in Camp last night safe and sound – left Columbus on Friday morning and came directly through. I saw Alfred and Bob Lockhart after writing to you there. Both well – Alfred looking rather thin. he reported his mother and sister much better – all the rest well. I made the connection at every point. In Chattanooga I met up with McOliver Couric and [--] I found an officer in charge of the guard on the train whom I knew and he very kindly gave us all seats in the Ladies car. He was Lieut Garner a brother of Bragg's Adjut Genl. about twenty miles this side of Chattanooga the rear car of our train ran off the track and turned a complete somersault down a bank about thirty feet high. It was full of soldiers. no one in the car seriously hurt one man who was on the platform of the car in front of it seeing the car going and thinking his own would go attempted to get off by jumping he fell and before he could get out of the way the car fell on him and mashed him so badly that it was thought he would die – Fortunately he was in the front car – notwithstanding this we reached [--] the junction of the Shelbyville road about one hour after [page 2] the usual time – I saw Mrs Pope and Mrs Clayton (the old Lady) in Tullahoma They went inside the Yankee lines but Rosenkranz refused them permission to visit the hospital to see Joe Clayton – and ordered them out of the lines They were waiting to see if they could not get a letter from him or about him – Did McCottrell succeed in finding his step-son and did he get in the Yankee lines? I found the company camped in a mud hole – we have Corinth N<sup>o</sup> 2 here except we have good water – Robertson is not with the Company he would have returned but Genl Polk went off on leave to see his family – Bragg has never been to Richmond and is at Tullahoma – The company lost in the fight four men killed and seventeen wounded the slightest wound being a shot through the arm There were five others with some slight scratches all the wounded are off at hospitals and gone home – John Gillespie a son of Mrs Prince's was wounded I expect he will go to Eufaula – Joe Watson who formerly clerked for Kendall was also wounded These are the only ones from that section – I have not seen Robertson yet. I expect he will be down

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many supplies at Tullahoma – but only one day's  
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of Duck river which was said to be our line of  
defence – I have seen no one out of the Company  
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camp. To-morrow I will stir round some –  
I owe a good many letters at home and will  
try and write them all up after a while –  
You may stir McKenna up about my uniform  
I believe I cannot do better than take it –  
I must have something in the shape of a uni=  
form or I will be taken for a conscript – You  
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[page 4]

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ten thousand – Genl Bragg does not wish  
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you more particularly some future time – my  
love to all the family – I will wrote Ada and  
Mr Young now – Tell Mollie her letter is  
delivered – goodbye Darling – much love  
and many kisses for you and the boy and  
tell him to be good and love MaMa and  
not forget PaPa – God bless and take  
care of you all Darling – Your own  
old Dear           Hubert