Camp of 4th Brigade
1 Div Hardee's Corps - Nov 28th 1862

Sir:

My attention has been called to the note of the Lt. General on the subject of the difference in the appearance of my horses, from those of the other Batteries of the Division, and as he presumes they have all fared alike in the matter of forage he attributes it to want of attention -

I beg leave to say in reply that my Battery is a six gun heavy battery, while the other Batteries are four gun batteries -

When I left Chattanooga for the march into Ky no distinction was made between six gun Batteries and four gun Batteries, but each was furnished with one wagon only for Baggage and Forage.

I had two at Chattanooga, but one was delivered up to Major Bridewell by order of Genl Hardee. As the no of horses required for a heavy six gun Battery, is considerably more than 50 per cent greater than the no. required for a 4 Gun Battery of 6 Pounders, the provision for foraging should be proportionally increased -

I had on those horses at the commencement of the march, and have not had a single horse purchased for me on the march before arriving at Knoxville - although horses became disabled and unserviceable on the route reducing the no of the horses to some of the pieces to six and to

Some

of the Caissons to Four -

Horses were purchased for some of the Batteries on the March -

About the time we crossed the Cumberland River on our March into Ky. I was detached from the Brigade and assigned to duty as the Reserve Battery of the Division.

I was never on more than three days supplied with forage by the Division Q.M., and I learn that some of the Batteries of the Brigades were either supplied or assisted with forage by their respective Brigades -

I was supplied with $500 - about the time of crossing Walden's Ridge for the purpose of purchasing forage, and received one hundred dollars more beyond the Cumberland Gap, and no other funds until arriving at Knoxville - I have expended my own money to purchase forage, and without it my horses would have suffered still more - It has not yet been refunded to me - On the March through East Ky, we often arrived in Camp at a late hour, and with one wagon it was impossible to obtain forage for the horses of the Battery - On one occasion we arrived at Cave City about 9 P.M. - on a dark night and having no forage ~~called on~~ went to the Div. Q.M. Maj. Hays, who said on being waked up, have I not furnished him money and authorised him to appoint a Q.M.?

I should say that at Maryville I was supplied with another small baggage wagon the number of my own having been increased by a detail of 24 mules from the 4th Brigade -

At Bryantsville a Forage wagon with four indifferent mules was sent to me for the purpose of carrying two days forage for about 125 horses and mules - It was ordered to go by the Richmond road, the wagon broke down and lost its load, and my horses about and beyond Wild Cat ran 40 hours without forage.

After the most urgent remonstrances I obtained from the Div Q.M. about 25 bushels of corn on this occasion -

I venture to say that a larger proportion of horses has been supplied to some of the Batteries than to my own, and that his assistance up to our arrival at Knoxville has been rendered to more than to any in the Division -

With only one blacksmith and no nails or nail rod iron at from Chattanooga to Bryantsville the horses suffered greatly for shoeing which of course materially effects their appearance and condition - Had I received one half the assistance in forage before I arrived at Knoxville which I have obtained since, and am now receiving from the Brigade Q.M. wagon train there would be no cause to complain of the condition of my horses and many valuable horses would have been now serviceable which have been condemned -

Copy of reply to
Genl Harders objection
that hours were neglected