Knoxville
May 7 1863

Dear Laura

Your letter was received a short time ago. We have been moving a great deal lately & are at last at Knoxville. The rest of the Legion is at Morristown about forty miles above here on the Va. R.R. We left there day before yesterday by R.R. & got here night before last. I know nothing of the object of the movements. I is reported that Burnside has been trying to invade East Ten. by way of Clinton & that my Batt. was brought here to be ready to reinforce the troops at that point. However nothing definite known.

We were very much rejoiced to hear that Forest had captured the Yankee expedition into Ala. & Ga. We are yet doubtful as to the result of Lee's victory in Va.

Lt. Col. ~~Maj~~ Holt passed here yesterday on his way to Morristown to join his Batt. The cars stopped a moment & Johnny barely got a chance to speak to the ~~Mas~~ Col.

I was glad to learn from your letter that you were waiting on Sis while she is sick. So all you can for her I would do anything honorable to be able to be there to help you nurse her. I think of her every day. Give her my love

and tell her that no matter what may be our destinies I shall always remember her with affection. I would gladly suffer for her if by so doing I could relieve her I do suffer for her every day in mind. I cannot bear to think of her sickness without the deepest pain. Cenobia & Johny also I believe think of her as much as I do.

Do all you can for her Lenia it may not be long that you can be together & you should spare no trouble.

Write to me often & let me know how she is getting. I wish you would write every day. I do hope she may yet get well & live to enjoy many a long year with us.

As for Cenobia John & self we are all doing well & have nothing to complain of. It may be that you may never see any of us again. This war seems just to be at its deepest & darkest stage & though we may all live through it yet there is a cloud that may keep us apart for a long time.

Maj. Gen. Maury commands the Department of East Tenn. now but we expect Gen. Buckner here soon. Of course my Battalion is temporarily detached from Gen Gracie's command & is now immediately under Gen. Davis. Write soon. Give love to Sister, your bro

Bolling Hall Jr.

ALA. DEPT. ARCHIVES & HISTORY MSS

Knoxville May 7th /63

Dear Laura

As Bolling has permitted me to write a few lines. I shall write them though I have no camp news and expect Bolling has written everything worth hearing. We left Beans Station day before yesterday morning, and marched to Morristown where we took the train for this place. We arrived here that night about 20 o'clock. Yesterday we came out to here (nearly a mile from town) and pitched our camps. We have a splendid place. It is in the woods with a plenty of large oaks and other trees for shade, and a very good spring in a hundred yards of us. In marching to Morristown, we met with a very serious accident, which came very near killing several of our men. We came to an old rotten bridge, which I think must have been thirty feet high - across a deep ravine, through which ran a creek. Bolling, seeing the bridge in this condition gave orders for no one to cross on it but to cross the creek below. Some men, who I think are disposed to disobey orders, & others who did not hear the orders, tried to cross the bridge. Lt Stewart of our company and one or two others got across safely. Lt Screws and about twenty five others were about half way the bridge when every thing went down together. all men on it were completely covered with planks & sills. I expect to see no less than thirty killed dead. I was crossing the creek not twenty steps below the bridge so that I could see every thing. I was certain for some time that Wallace Screws was killed, but pulling off my

knapsack - canteen &c to get the men out, I found that he was not so seriously injured - He is now almost over it - only suffers some with his head, which was hurt by a piece of timber only about fifteen men of the Battalion were hurt much - About ten of our Company, Only one or two seriously. One (John Roy) I fear may die. It is a mistery to me how any of them were ever got alive. I expect from what I can learn that we will stay here for some time. The other Battalion are all up at Morristown. We have received the news of Lee's victory - which I hope will help us along greatly - How did you feel when the Yankees were about Rome Ga.? The Georgians think now there is nobody like Forrest - I saw Col. Holt yesterday Had very little time to talk to him. He said he never saw as much excitement in Montgomery in his life as was there Monday, on account of the Yankee raid. He said two or three companies were raised Sam Wardlaw and others & Col. Sibbles was raising a regiment. That is the right & the only way for the citizens to do if the Yankees ever try our part of the country. The Ga-s did mighty well and have no idea that Forrest would ever have captured the whole expedition, had not the citizens fought the enemy & held him in check for Forrest to come up with him. Direct letters to Knoxville. We are getting on well. My love to all Goodbye

Your affect brother

Jno E Hall

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