

Camp 59 Ala Regt
Sandridge Feb 12 1864

Dear Laura

Though you are a slow correspondent yet I will write to you now again for I have no idea where I shall be kept or when I shall have another chance to write for we are under marching orders now & leave here at sunrise tomorrow.

You recollect that I mentioned in one of my letters to you that I supposed all your letters did not reach me as you spoke in your last of some I was certain I never read. Last night the identical letter came to hand. It had been sent to the 59th Geo. Regt. in another Brigade - so thereafter to make assurance doubly sure direct your letters very plainly make the "Ala" so plain that no one could ever mistake it for "Geo." You sometimes put your letters with such a fine pen that Satan himself could hardly read them -

In addition to this always put the Brigade on it thus

59 Ala Regt

Gracie's Brigade
Sandridge Tenn
Via Richm^d

It is well also to put "Longstreet's army" after Gracie's Brigade.

Speaking of Longstreet I have got so that I think well of him. He is certainly

Copied

1864

Copied

Car 9 " 1864

One of the most energetic men I ever saw. Johnny can tell you he is always in the
 the saddle and you may tell Johnny that
 he is shooting deserters now as fast
 as he gets them - He pardons none &
never disapproves decisions of Courts Martial
 when they shoot deserters just for little
 informality in the proceedings. He is
 the best Genl we have yet been under.
 He keeps us moving - no winter quarters
 for this army. Tomorrow we move ~~down~~
~~down~~ the French Broad. I understand
 to within five or six miles of Knoxville
 For some time there has been an
 order to accumulate 5000 bushels
 corn at Strawberry Plains & to take
 every grain of corn from the citizens -
 this is a very stringent order & looks
 as if something worse in contemplation
 I would not be surprised if we
 made a campaign into Middle Tenn
 or Kentucky in the Spring. My opinion
 is that at present we are only moving
 up to occupy all the country we can as
 fast as the Yankees retreat so as to be
 always close on their heels. Tell Johnny
 the R.R. is now complete to Strawberry
 Plains & the cars running there. I don't
 think we shall start for Middle Tenn
 before our furloughed men return for after
 we pass Knoxville (unless we capture it which
 I don't think we can do unless they evacuate)
 they never could reach us & a great many
 are now absent a furloughs of indulgence

Continued

(3)rd

[1864]

However this is all mere conjecture & I have conjectured so often I missed the mark that I know it amounts to nothing. Longstreet may intend to unite with Joe Johnson or he may be intending to destroy this country completely & retreat from it.

My hope is to see him make a charge for Middle Tenn or Kentucky - We would at least live well for a while, if we did die hard to pray for it.

It is now threatening rain which if it does do will give us a nice time marching through the mud & wading rivers in this cold climate. Tell John the Yanks thrashed our cavalry again the other day. Well it is late & I write by a torch light so I must close. Don't know when if ever I can send this to the Po. Off.

Remember me to Father carries the boys

Yr brother

Bolling Hall Jr.

[1864]

Feb 17th Brobairns Ferry French Broad.

Since writing the above we have moved
 sixteen (16) mls. & have orders to keep 3 days action & be ready to
 move any moment - No one knows anything - we are now
 closing on Knoxville ^{It is} some 15 mls. from here - We are between
 the two rivers Holston & F. Broad - The weather is again
 bitter cold. This morning felt but one a large tin can
 full & set it down by me near a large fire about half hour
 after I noticed it & it was frozen through solid. Tell Jim
 he was fortunate - We are camped now in the woods
 & though it alternates rains & freezes on us & get with plant wood
 we can stand it - Since writing the first of this letter
 I have rec^d many letters intended for the Regt 59 also Regt of
 Clintons Brigade - So I will change my directions to
 you about directing letters - When you write to me just
 direct to "Col. B. Hall's Francis Brigade Independent Corps" If you
 wish to have J. direct to "Col. Hall's Regt Francis B. Inf."
 Do not put the number of Regt at all - This certainly
 ought to save confusion & by doing this we shall be
 far more apt to receive our letters - Good bye

Go

B. Hall Jr



Camp 59 Ala Regt
Dandridge Feb 12 1864

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Dandridge Tenn
Via Richm^d

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one of the most energetic men I ever saw. Johny can tell you he is always in the the saddle and you may tell Johny that he is shooting deserters now as fast as he gets them - He pardons none & never disapproves decisions of courts martial where they shoot deserters just for little informalities in the proceedings. He is the best Gen^l we have yet been under. He keeps us moving - no winter quarters for this army. Tomorrow we move ~~down~~ down the French Road. I understand

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For some time there has been an
order to accumulate 5000 bushels
corn at Strawberry Plains & to take
every grain of corn from the citizens -
This is a very stringent order & looks
as if something was in contemplation
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Plains & the cars running there. I dont
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[page 3]

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Remember me to Father Carrie & the boys

Yr brother

Bolling Hall Jr.

[page 4]

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Yr

B Hall Jr