Copied

Co. B. 4th Ala Regt. Trenches near Petersburg Va
February 6th 1865.

Dear Laura.

I have received no letters from you in two months or more. this, I am unable to account for. I have written you repeatedly. Men are passing almost daily by whom you could send letters. But even were this not so, the Mail comes through in about two weeks time. Day before yesterday Crenshaw got a letter from father dated Janry. 24th, which came by mail, having made the trip in about twelve days. I am glad Jim had a chance to stop at home, though his furlow was short. I dont see why they dont give him a long furlow, as many others get. He has had a hard time this winter. I wish I could have been at home with him. Some of my company came from home a few days since. He traveled with Jim from Montgomery to Augusta Ga, where Jim got off to hunt his Command. He sent me two Montgy papers which we were glad to get, not having seen one before in sometime. Our "peace Commissioners" have returned. Of course did nothing. Our only chance for independence is to fight it out. Negotiating will do no. I send father a Richmond Examiner of Yesterday, which contains some very interesting articles. Among other things a Synopsis of of a speech made by President Davis in Richmond

a few days since. The result of the Commissioners trip will, I think, thoroughly arouse the country to a sense of its duty. The citizens generally have become lukewarm & need encouragement in some way. Tell Father I have sent him Richmond papers several times recently. Dont know whether he got them or not. Sent some by Lieut. Madsworth. I dont know whether Father takes Richmond papers or not, & sent them occasionally thinking, that he would get them a head of the Mails. Tell Bolling, Vinson's first application was disapproved by Genl Lee A few days since I sent up a second one for him to be transferred to the 3rd Ala Cavalry. This morning I received an order for him (from the Sec. War) to report to Maj Genl Withers of Ala, for conscript duty in Talladega County. I send this letter by him. The Spirit of the army is fast being revived. Shortly we shall once more have a fine army. I think negroes will be put in the army. I favor any measure necessary to gain our freedom. There has been fighting on the right for two or three days. Tell Bolling Genl Pegram (a while back Commanded a battalion & was I believe in College with Bolling) was killed. Genl (formerly Longstreets A.A.G.) Sorrel, was severely wounded through thigh. I have heard of no other

casualties. Rodes's division was engaged, but I've heard nothing from them. The two first days I understand we whipped them badly (yesterday's fighting (which from artillery & musketry seemed hardest) we have not heard from. I understand we only have three divisions there, Mahone's, Rhodes & Gordon's while the Yanks had three corps. There is no fighting to day, yet, & it is 12 o'clock. I hardly think there will be any. Col. Hagood has gone home on furlow. Some men will leave the Reg't in the morning on furlow. Lee is furloughing liberally. I have two men who will get off in a day or two I think. Three applications should have come back this morning, but did not. I shall write home by them, when they have. Several of our Officers have made applications for (30) days leave. They will get them, I reckon, as few have been disapproved. Desertions in our army have stopped I think. I have not heard of one in sometime. We still occupy our old position, at the "Crater". Frequently have flags of truce up, during which time no shooting is done (except) occasionally a Reb steals a chance to kill a Yankee, & sometimes the compliment is reciprocated. During these (as well as all others) the Yanks are very anxious to talk with our men, but our boys are not allowed to speak to them. Some young ladies were out a few days since to look at the Yanks

they got over our breastworks & went out to the picket line. The Yanks were very much surprised to see young ladies on the line. The picket line is not more than 50 yards from the Yanks so the young ladies got a good view of them.
We have no news. I shall not ask you to write. Do as you please about it. Good bye.

Yours &c.

J. A. Hall

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