[MARY LOUISA]

Camp near Knoxville Tenn
December 6th 1862

My dear Sister

I received my trunk clothes &c, sent by Capt. Williams, yesterday & Bolling also received a letter from father. We are a thousand times obliged to you for the clothes. Every thing does very well & come in fine time as it snowed & rained together all day yesterday. The overcoat could not have come in better time. I notice upon one pair of socks a very young girls name only eight years old. I suppose she knit them. They are very nice certainly better than half of the ladies can do at twenty. We have just moved our camp from the rail road below Knoxville over upon the river a half a mile above town. It is now seven or eight oclock at night and we are not done moving but as Lieut. Henley leaves for Montgomery on the nine oclock train in the morning, I thought I should write you at least a few lines to night by him. We have guard duty to do in town such as guarding prisons, comissary stores &c, and I expect we will remain here during the winter. It is convenient

to the railroad & that is the best that can be said for this place. I received a letter from Tom & one also from Laura a day or two since dated the 17th & 18th of November. I suppose Crawford & Sap Jackson are both married by now. If you have seen Sap's intended or wife, whichever she is, how do you like her? I think she is a very nice young lady. I expect you will like her. She was Cousin M.E. Sasnett's great friend. Tom I suppose is still staying at home. I should not be surprised to hear at any time that he was to be married soon. Bolling Hall I understand is engaged. I think it Tom's turn next. I reckon when I get home I will find all the young people married. Some of us will have to be bachelors certain. I received a very interesting letter from Marie Elmore a day or so since. When you see her ask her what has she done with the devoted bachelor: don't say that I mentioned it. I suppose by now Father has moved to the Montgomery place. I think it will be a very good idea, for it will give the children an opportunity to go to school, and Father will be nearer his business. Bolling got a letter from Crenshaw yesterday which he wrote the day after he got home. We hear no news here. I hope Maj. Stubblefield will succeed in getting four companies for our battalion, so as to raise it to a regiment. I think we can get along better by being in a

regiment & out of the Legion. You have heard, no doubt, (as I wrote to Tom about it) that several of our men deserted at Bridgeport Ala- Two or three of our company (George Oden & Powell Johnson) have since deserted. Several have died. Our company has been very much reduced since our return from Kentucky. I have at last gained the position for which I ran in Montgomery (I mean the 1st Lieutenancy). Capt- Wise and myself can get along very well together. Have no trouble in the world, except when some desert. I should have written home oftener in the past week or so, but our wagons went around by Chatanooga overland & just got to us yesterday evening, and as they had my paper &c in them I could not write. I am writing this by an oak wood fire & of course have bad light. Can hardly see the lines at all. I shall try to write a long letter in a day or two.
I must close for to night. I am in better health than I have been in for a long time & weigh more
Love to all. Good bye.

Your devoted Brother
John Elmore Hall

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