Near Chattanooga Tenn.
August 12th 1862

Dear Laura

Owing you a letter ever since I left Lattillo, I now will answer it; although there is no news at all to write. I have not seen Brother Boling and them at all yet as I expected. I learn that they have gone on to Knoxville which report is not at all likely to prove false as all of the troops are being hurried on up there, or in that direction, as fast as steam can carry them. Four or five trains leave daily loaded with troops for Knoxville. It is thought our time will come to leave pretty soon. You need not be surprised at any moment to hear of the commencement of hostilities (?) in this section of the country now. We have been inspected and supplied with forty rounds of ammunition in our cartridge boxes and warned very particularly about

keeping ourselves supplied, all the time. This is a beautiful country around here. It is the only mountainous country I ever was in. In passing through the Blue Ridge en route for this place I was perfectly delighted in the appearance of the surrounding country. We passed through a tunnel half a mile long. It was as dark as the darkest night I ever saw, in the tunnel. I saw a man a day or two ago who said that he saw Brother Bolling in Chattanooga a little over a week ago and he then had his Battalion at the Depot ready to get right on the train for Knoxville. I do not think there will be much chance of our getting into the Legion now until after the fight, for it is quite probable that we will keep moving until we are moved into a battle, and probably will not stop there unless misfortune overtakes us and the God of battles declare against us, then we will be compelled

to quit advancing.

They are talking of appointing a Lieut of one of the Mississippi companies Capt of this company. Lt. Wood and Myrick have been sent for to be examined and be appointed 1st Lieut's in some other company in the Regiment. They flatly refuse and if a Miss Capt be appointed over this company there will be a row certain. The men all swear they won't serve under one. The Lt is an Irishman so that they are thinking of appointing over the company. Could we but just get out of the regiment before the appointments are made we could avoid it, but I fear it is too late. I know not how the thing will work. I must close. I wrote to father yesterday. Write often and believe me as ever

Your Brother &c

Jno B Hall

ALA. DEPT. ARCHIVES & HISTORY MSS

P.S. Since writing the above Brother James has received a letter from father

J B Hall