Camp near Cumberland Gap
Sept-5th 1862

Dear Laura

I have no news but shall write you a few lines although I wrote to Sister yesterday. For the two or three days we have been receiving glorious news. If it only keeps up with what official dispatches have made it, it will be glorious news. The first we heard was that Jackson Lee & Longstreet have gained a complete victory over McClellan & Pope at Manassas. Last night we received the news that Gen. Cooly Smith had after three days fighting near Richmond Kentucky captured almost the whole of a command, numbering something like 10.000

who were on their way to reinforce the Gap - I think we will soon pass into Kentucky, however not without first getting possession of the Gap. We get on finely up here, although Col - Hilliard & Gen - Stevenson do not get on so smoothly. Col - H - does not like him (the Gen -) so well. Dont say any thing about this. It might create prejudice at home. Our Batt - gets on finely. The health of the men is greatly improved. We will be able to make a good turn out, if a fight comes off soon. We are well & in fine spirits. Write immediately. I shall write again when I hear any news. Give my love to Miss Seibels, Pickett & Hails when you see them. Good bye

Your brother
Jno E Hall

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