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it is to the true patriot in the  
army. ~~When~~ For instance - When  
Gen Bragg took command of the army  
he was hated. It was the duty of  
officers no matter what they thought  
of Bragg, to instill into the men  
confidence in him. It was not long  
~~before my company were all Bragg~~  
men and when he left us they con-  
sidered it a dark hour for Bragg's ar-  
my. They loved, and respected him while  
they feared him. Was it not my  
duty to talk them this. But he  
is taken from us, he returns and  
would not have given for me seen  
a Johnston or a Beauregard.

And now it becomes my duty to  
teach my men to feel in like man-  
ner toward our <sup>present</sup> commanding General.  
Because troops are much more of  
frequent where they have implicit  
confidence <sup>in their General</sup>. I have not as much  
confidence in Johnston as I had  
in Gen Bragg. Therefore I fear that  
I can never ~~that~~ cause them to have  
that implicit confidence in him  
which they had in Gen Bragg.  
I have no doubt but that my case  
is the case of many officers. I have  
wished often to call a meeting of  
my company and give expression  
in the papers to our opinion concern-  
ing the removal of Gen Bragg.  
But that would tend to dissatisfy  
the men & with Johnston & Davis  
and it is my duty to prevent this.

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I have no doubt but that this is the opinion case with thousands that are in the army. Who are only restrained from an expression of their opinions by the fear of dissatisfying the army still more. If we knew that it would place Gen Bragg over us again how gladly would we do it - but it would not tend to demoralize the army.

My health is excellent. We had some excitement the day before yesterday on account of a brigade the Yankees sent down to Turnell hill which ran in our pickets. We were ordered to hold our selves in readiness to move at a moments warning but as they retired immediately we did not leave camp.

Farewell

Your affectionate son  
C. A. Hall



Dalton Georgia  
Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 1864

Dear Father

I have just received your letter written in reply to mine by Driver I received also the other day a letter from Laura which I have answered. I am glad that you are so much interested in Gen Bragg. I assure you that this is the sentiment of nearly the whole of the rank & file in the portion of this army that I have heard express themselves It may not be so with the Tennessee ans. Gen. Johnston reviewed our Brigade in fact our Division the other day & never received a single cheer in any Brigade except Vaughan's Tennessee Brigade, and that a very faint one. If Braxton Bragg

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had have made his appearance every hat would have been waved and the air rent with cheers. You can have no idea how embarrassing it is to the true patriot in the army. When for instance when Gen Bragg took command of this army he was hated. It was the duty of officers no matter what they thought of Bragg, to instill into the men confidence in him. It was not long before my company were all Bragg men and when he left us they considered it a dark hour for Braggs army. They loved and respected him while they feared him. Was it not my duty to teach them this? But he is taken from us, he whom we would not have given for a Lee a Johnston or a Beauregard

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Jas A Hall