Camp near Tullahoma Tenn
April 1th 1864

Dear father

Crenshaw received your letter of 28th March yesterday - We have just returned from Brigade drill - Genl Gracie drilled our Brigade 2 hours - We had just come off of Company drill in which we drilled two hours besides the hour of squad drill we had at 8 o'clock - Making altogether five hours we drilled to day before two o'clock - We had a poor brigade drill I think but Genl Gracie was very well pleased - Said the Regts did well The spirits of our men have been somewhat tried lately by hard marching and poor rations - Until yesterday they had had no meat in several

days - Yesterday the men drew one pound of bacon for three days - ⅓ lb a day & also got some tolerable beef - They have been drawing beef prior to this that no one could eat - The beef was so poor - That in skinning it - the ribs in many places would come apart - The flour drawn for nearly two weeks past has been very inferior I have examined it closely several times - & I do not exaggerate when I say - Yesterday I found rice, oats & bearded wheat all ground up together Of this the men only got ¾ lb per day after sifting it. There remains not more than ½ lb of eatable breadstuff The officers have exactly the same issued to them & same quantity - But Genl Longstreet issued an order that Companys Officers should be allowed in addition to what they drew - to buy

1/3 rations per day. Mounted Officers 1/2 rations. By this lately we fare a little better than the men. The officers of our brigade held a meeting a few days since & passed resolutions - Complaining of the rations &c, & demanding a change in the Commissary Dep't. These we sent to Genl - Gracie - But have heard nothing from them yet - Other brigades around us - get good flour & some bacon It is reported that 10,000 troops are on their way here as reinforcements, to Longstreet - If that be so we will certainly go into Kentucky - I think we will go any show - Genl - Buckner is now commanding our division He is out drilling Lawr brigade now where our brigade drilled a few minutes ago - Bolling - Col - Jolly & McCannan has gone to see them drill - I shall go when I finish this - I understand

some men have the Bugt - on furlows
this evening & I shall send this by them
I have tried to write every chance -
I get on tolerably well - Have all the
company in my hands again - Capt
Wise is sick - Lt Jones is under arrest
and charges of a serious character, I
expect, have been preferred against
him - Stewart has been suspended
from rank & command by Genl
Long street upon failing to stand
an examination, so that I am the
only offiar with the company for
duty - Capt - Wise - is ordered before
the board of examination tomorrow
But says he will answer no questions
Having already tendered his resigna-
tion - I will soon be barefooted - If you
can send me a pair of shoes or boots
please do so - Marching through mud
as we have lately & standing around

fires has almost worn my shoes out
Some of the men of my company now
absent on furlows told me they would
call to see you when they were returning
& bring any thing you wanted to send
It is impossible to get shoes here -
Several of our men are bare footed again
& some much in need of clothing
If you can get no others I would like
for you to send those boots I left
(If you have ever gotten them from
Auburn) Although they were too
large & rubbed my heels - still they
will do better than none - Tell
Laura I shall write her tomorrow
or next day - Promised it yesterday
but could not - We are well -
Love to Carrie & tell her I shall
write in a day or two. Good bye
Your Affect Son
J. E. Hall

P.S. Direct to Bristol - East Tenn

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