

Camp 2 Bot Ala Legion
Strawberry Plains Tenn.
Aug. 10. 1863

My dear Father,

Since I last wrote we have moved to this place. This is on the Knoxville & Va. R.R. about fifteen miles from the former place (Knoxville). The 43rd Ala. I.S. Tenn. 4th Batt. of the Legion & mine are already here & the other part of the Brigade expected today or tomorrow. It is intended to concentrate Gracie's Brigade here. There is an attempt being made to consolidate the Legion so as to form two Regts. I think Col. Shorington is opposed to it. I have not taken any part in it. The Sec. of War ordered Gen. Buckner to do it if it could be done agreeably to certain points. I suppose that means Col. Shorington & the Battⁿ Commanders. As Gen. Gracie & Buckner are both very anxious to make the change I do not know what will be done. I think the chances are equal for the project to succeed or fail. I believe almost all the officers of the Legion favor the change but the difficulty will be to arrange it to suit every man's particular convenience. Gen. B's order is to reorganise it according to rank of officers so that I will be certain almost to get one of the Regts. I do not however care much how it turns out that is whether it is reorganised or not. Of course if it is done I desire to have what I consider my rights.

Tom came up the day we left Knoxville & as Crumhorn & myself were detained there two days he was with us that time.

We returned the day after he came up to
Chattanooga. Tom gave amusing accounts of
how bold & spirited & badly whipped the people
about Montgomery are. I am astonished
at all this. The Army here is far from being
in such spirits. I suppose however that
the Montgomery people are like all other cities
have been during the war as soon as they
see their own particular city or country cap-
tured think the South subdued. The Montgom-
erians thought their time certainly coming
out when Jackson fell. I hope not though
it is possible yet if it does happen we
will still be far from whipped. I do not
rely on Vallandigham nor on French inter-
vention although Buckner's Chief of Staff
offers large bets that France has recognised
us. I simply rely on the patriotism
of our army. The most discouraging
thing I have seen is the elections in Ala-
bama being beaten think very bad. Yarranton
the member of legislature from Coosa is
a member of the traitorous secret society I
write you also about. I also hear that
Parker is elected. He is another member.

I hear also bad reports as to the issues made
among the lower classes by which Watts
beat Shorter. However in spite of all this
hope the old state will come out right in the
end.

This is a very pleasant place where we are
encamped in the woods & fine water nearby
I do not think any movement is contemplated
soon though of course I cannot tell.
All well. Write soon.

Yours
W. H. Campbell



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He returned the day after he came up to Chattanooga. Tom gave amusing accounts of how low spirited & badly whipped the people about Montgomery are. I am astonished at all this. The army here is far from being in such spirits. I suppose however that the Montgomery people are like all other cities have been during the war as soon as they see their own particular city or country captured think the South subdued. The Montgom-

erians thought their time certainly coming next when Jackson fell. I hope not though this is possible yet if it does happen we will still be far from whipped. I do not rely on Vallandigham nor on French intervention although Buckner's chief of staff offers large bets that France has recognised us. I simply rely on the patriotism of our army. The most discouraging thing I have seen is the elections in Ala Curry being beaten is I think very bad. Vanzant the member of legislature from Coosa is a member of the traitorous Secret Society I wrote you also about. I also hear that Parker is elected. He is another member.

I hear also bad reports as to the issues made among the lower classes by which Watts beat Shorter. However in spite of all this hope the old state will come out right in the end.

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All well Write soon. Yr &c

B Hall Jr.