

Camp at Mr. Farlane Springs
near Chattanooga Tenn
August 26th 1863

Dear Father,

Tom and myself
wrote you last from Wauhatchie
on the Chattanooga and Bridgeport
R. R. 5 miles from Chattanooga.
We told you that we had moved
from our old camp to that place
on the 20th. We wrote on the 21st.

On the same day ~~we~~ I was order-
ed to get my company ready for
picket duty. We told you that the
enemy had driven in our pickets
opposite Chattanooga and were shell-
ing the town. 3 ladies & several per-
sons were killed in town. The enemy
captured some of our forage train
that was over the river & also some
men. Well On the 21st we went
on picket to Kelly's Ferry 10 miles
north of Chattanooga. When we
got to the Ferry our cavalry on the
other side (a battallion) were swim-
ming their horses across, expecting

the enemy to be upon them every minute. It was 2 o'clock the next morning before they all got over. We were left there to guard the ferry with a company of cavalry (25 in number). I had about 5-6 min. If the enemy attempted to cross they would come in force and with artillery. We had no artillery and we had a very open position. Therefore we knew that though we might check them for a while that ~~and~~ they could effect a crossing. We staid at the river on the 22nd, 23rd and till the evening of 24th. Maj Pierce of our Regt. was in command, and we are now down on Genl. Bragg because he ordered us in on the night of the 24th thereby preventing us from immortalizing ourselves by whipping 7000 of the enemy whom we had been expecting all the at day. We heard that 7000 of the enemy were in 7 miles and advancing on us, of course we expected them all day but as I have said were ordered in that night, had to march all night to get back, also had a good deal of moving about.

and marching to do the next day.

Yesterday we marched three miles to this place, and have been fixing up our camp since so that this is the first chance I have had of writing. Ben has been sick with dysentery for 2 or 3 days but - is much better to day. I am well pleased with Ben so far and I think he will make a good servant. Tom is in excellent health - has not been mustered in yet but seized a gun and took his place in the ranks the other day when we expected to fight.

We are now 5 miles from Chattanooga south east - Cheathams Division is guarding the ferry in town. Hill's corps is at Harrison's Ferry above Chattanooga. I hear to day that Johnsons wing is coming to us through north Ala. Burnside is marching on Knoxville. Rosys idea I think was to flank us on both sides. (Cross above & below) & force us to leave Chattanooga by threatening to concentrate ~~in our~~ (form a junction) in our rear. This he could do if Johnson did not come to our support and I dont think that Burnside can -

can do much in East Tenn if he
has only 20,000 men. Rolling will
probably have a chance to try his
battalion soon, I know that he longs
for the chance, — But you are
better informed as to our move-
ments than I am I suppose.
Anderson has fallen back from
Bridgeport, — our whole corps (Polk's)
is now near or at Chattanooga,
~~at~~ all the citizens have left Chattanooga
~~we~~ and it is entirely deserted.
Rest easy about Tenn & myself.
Give my love to all at home
We have not heard from home
in a week now. Write to us
soon.

Your Affec Son
Gus A. Hall



Camp at M^cFarland Springs
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August 26th 1863

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