

On The march near Tiner Station Tenn
August 31st 1863

My Dear Father

As you again see, since I last wrote to you our camp has been abandoned and we are once more on the tramp. We marched from McFarland Springs yesterday to this place a distance of about nine miles. We are now within two miles of Tiner Station. I don't know what we have stopped here so long for. We got here about four o'clock yesterday evening and it is now about eleven o'clock and the troops (at least our Regt) are being mustered for pay, and are still under orders to be ready to move at a moment's notice with two days cooked rations. Tiner Station as perhaps you are aware is on the Knoxville road and about nine miles from Chattanooga. It is also about the same distance from Johnsons Ferry (near Harrison) the place where it is thought the enemy will perhaps endeavor to cross. We heard that they started to cross, or commence crossing last night, but I don't know whether it is reliable. If they cross there you may count on a great victory to our arms. If they do not cross there I think they will move higher up the river towards Knoxville and perhaps the battle come off near Loudon. If Bragg unites Buckners army with his there can be no possible chance for Rosecrans but to be

badly whipped. Gen Bragg recently held a consultation with his Officers and told them that he intended to fight the enemy now. That he had the men now and he intended to fight. "Fight there would be and win we must" He did not know where the fight would take place; Perhaps at Chattanooga or may be about Knoxville or Atlanta. I hope it will come off right here. We are all right for another Kentucky Campaign now with twenty five days rations for the whole army already on wheels for transportation in pursuit of our enemy. This is just five days rations more than we had when we started into Kentucky last fall. These are things which ^{are} ~~it is~~ hard to interpret. I suppose you know better than I do the number of reinforcements Johnston is sending to us. I have not seen any of them yet, nor have I heard anything more about them but what I have written to you before. It will do us a heap of good to whip out the Yankees and relieve some of the "whipped out" at home of a great anxiety. Not only that but disappoint some of Bragg's bitter enemies. I actually believe that there are men in Montgomery who would be sorry to hear that Bragg had gained a great victory. Some of his enemies in the army still pretend to cling to the opinion that Bragg will "run again" and if we just happen to turn our heads southwards on the march they seem to be glad of

it - Glad that Bragg is ^{doing} what they said he would do.
They commenced ^{singing} "Away down South in Dixie" the
other day because we followed down the Rome
road a little piece and camped for two nights.
They said they were off for Dalton, but they have
been badly disappointed and now find themselves
on a different road from the Rome.

All I have to fear now is our new General. Hind-
man has proven himself to be a regular low-life
crowdy by what he done the other night. Our Division
was on the march until about two O'clock in the
night. When we halted Gen Hindman found Polk's
Staff camped on the spot where he had picked out
his head quarters and he went up and roused them
calling them "a set of I-I unprincipled curs" and
other such epithets as that. Next day Polk's Inspc. Genl
challenged him but Hindman would not accept. Cheat-
ham's Inspector Genl who bore the challenge considered him-
self insulted by the refusal in some way and he chal-
lenged him. Hindman would not accept. Two more of Polk's
Staff then challenged him but he as many times
refused. I understand that he wrote Polk a note but
the note was returned unread. These little facts I learn
are so. But with all this he may be a good Officer.
and I for one will do none the less good fighting
on account of him. If he will just lead us into it
that is all I want, to encourage me to fight. Or if
he keeps out of the way I don't care.

I don't know that this letter will be mailed at all
but I have determined to risk the chances as one
of the boys is going to be left behind sick and
perhaps will be sent to some Hospital where he can
mail it. Brother James writes to you at our old
Camp but did not have a chance to send off his
letter before now. So I will enclose the two together.
Perhaps we will not have another chance to write
in some time yet; if not you need feel no anxi-
ety about us. We will be all right you may de-
pend upon it. Give my love to all the family and
tell them to write. I have not heard from
home now in a long time. I shall always
write when I have the last chance to mail
the letter.

Your Affec. Son
The P. Hall



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Your Affec. Son
Tho^s B Hall