

Near Cumberland Gap.

Sept. 1.st 1862

Dear Father,

Polly wrote you yesterday by Mr Brann here on a visit & I did not suppose I should ever write from here again but the Gap is apparently as impregnable and impenetrable as ever.

We occupy our first position about 2 1/2 miles directly in front of the Gap. occasionally a shot and shell pass harmlessly by.

but yesterday the ire of the yankees was specially provoked and they ~~paid~~ complimented us several times with missiles of war we have one of the shells here in our tent. which struck in our camp. The occasion of this anger with them, was a visit paid them by

by Genl Rain's night before last.
He went right up to the mouth of
the Gap with two Regiments and
40 wagons and went into their
Commissary establishment - hauled
off 200 bushels wheat 50 sacks of
Flour 25 horses, and milk cows I
don't know how many.

all accomplished without loss of
life. I do not know how much
longer our enemy will hold out -
but if ~~the country~~ he be as anxious
as we are to get on toward the
Ohio ~~at at at~~ he will leave
pretty soon. In ten days perhaps
we will be in possession of the
Gap. Gen Smith is crossing or
has crossed the mountains at
Big creek gap 30 miles below.
The cavalry of the Legion are in
his advance and have already
rendered valuable service - capturing

Three or four hundred wagons and
teams and several hundred prisoners.
This is reported I suppose others
aided in capturing these but what
troops I did not learn.

I hear that Bragg is in Nashville
and that our Army in Virginia
is again in the neighborhood of
Manassas. If there are any felix
recollections that can stir up
Isham's soldiers the presence of
Manassas and old rivers ought
to arouse them. Most of them
are familiar with that country
and most of them have a felix
recollection of their many hardships
while there. I believe he has
the army of the South - and whenever
they encounter the foe with an
equal number will always be
victorious. I believe that the
most patriotic sons of the South

are now battling for our rights in
old Virginia - we will remember
that they are the troops who first
entered the service of the country -
and who have ^{braved} many dangers and
hardships with but little murmuring
- that while a great many who are
now in the western army were
waiting for the approach of the
Conscript there were protecting them
at home. I should almost prefer
defeat here to the defeat of our
bravest army in Virginia.

My paper is about out.

The Battalion is in better condition
than when we came here -

we could go into a fight with
more than 300 men - McIntyre
is here and brought on 20 recruits
making his company more than 60 men.
one of Diligent's Lieutenants, Goza left
for Couchapoga to day for the purpose
of making a requisition for some of
Ala's conscripts. He has but 63 men in
his company now - all well - Has my
trunk been rec'd (by the express)

M. Crumshaw Hall



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He went right up to the mouth of the Gap with two Regiments and 40 wagons and went into their commissary establishment - hauled off 300 bushels wheat 50 sacks of Flour 25 horses, and milk cows I dont know how many.

All accomplished without loss of life. I do not know how much longer our enemy will hold out but if ~~the country~~ he be as anxious as we are to get on toward the Ohio ~~as we are~~ he will leave pretty soon. In ten days perhaps we will be in possession of the Gap. Gen Smith is crossing or

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Crenshaw Hall