

John Elmore Hall (less than 20 years old)  
to his father, Bolling Hall, Autauga County, Ala.

Richmond Va-  
June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1862

My dear father

I telegraphed you yesterday  
(my first opportunity) but have not before had  
any time to write! We were in the fight all  
day Saturday. Our regiment was put in advance  
to open the Ball. Gen-Rhodes made us a little  
speech before we got to the field telling us  
how much the day depended on us &c - We  
needed no encouragement. Our poor regim-  
ent suffered severely. Our poor company  
was almost completely annihilated!  
Gen Abercrombie died of his wounds last night  
quarter after ten. He was shot in four places  
through both legs above the knees, through  
the right arm below the elbow, and through  
the left side, the ball passing through his lungs  
just missing his heart & coming out in his  
breast. The Surgeon says the wound in his breast  
was the fatal one. He was not brought in from  
the field until yesterday morning. We were  
so scattered that no three of any number of the

same company were together, so that when our  
friends were shot down, they seldom had any  
one near them to care for them. Thus it happen-  
ed that I was not with ~~him~~ when he was  
wounded. I found him yesterday in a hospit-  
al & staid with him all of the time. Judge ~~Green~~  
from Texas, Fisher & myself had him buried  
this evening. Balling Hall is shot through the  
arm, and is somewhere now in Richmond  
at a private house but I cannot find him  
I shall look for him tomorrow again. I  
understand from boys of our company who  
came off of the field with him that he was  
only slightly wounded, that is not seriously  
I want to find him & get him here where I am  
as I am in a good place with Maj. Mason &  
Fisher waiting upon White. You recollect him  
The poor fellow got his leg broken just below  
the thigh. The surgeons told him it would  
have to be cut off. Capt. Fox was killed in  
the first of the engagement & buried here  
yesterday. Tom McWhithen was I understand  
slightly wounded, though he went the next  
morning & took command of the company  
(which only numbered five or six). The only  
two Lieuts. we had were badly wounded

Compton (in our mess) was wounded in the foot  
and one ear shot off James Oliver had one  
finger shot off. We went into the engagement  
with forty six privates, five sergeants & three  
commissioned officers, all of the commissione  
ed officers were killed or wounded all of the  
sergeants but two and I am confident that  
not more than eight or ten sound privates came  
out. A good many were killed dead and a  
good many mortally wounded. I cannot give  
you a correct list of the killed & wounded  
yet because I came away Sunday morning  
to wait upon John White. & the boys were  
so scattered then that I could see none of  
them. I shall name as many of the killed  
as I can think of or have heard of, for there  
are a great many who I have not heard  
from yet, Crumshaw will know them all.  
Sergeant Howe was killed. Albert White, was  
killed these are the only ones who I saw fall  
dead. but others who fell away have died too  
shot down were G. Christie, J. B. Finigan, J.  
Susman, Davenport, Tom Hinkle, H. Nelson  
John Hardwick, J. Mc Gaddin (shot in four places)  
These were all who I yet know to have been  
shot down. Sims - Goall & Miller were badly

wounded - the first in the shoulder by a minnie  
ball & the latter by a shell in both legs. Col  
Willingham & Maj - Nesmitt were both killed  
Capts - Glounoy, Gordon Kimbrough & Bell I  
know were killed - Capt - Pon of the Antanga  
rifles was badly wounded. These are all I  
can think of at present. The yankees fought  
well when they could get behind trees but  
when we would get them in the open  
field we would soon route them. A ball  
hit me in the back of the leg penetrating  
my clothes but not entering the leg. It  
made a very large bruised place which  
caused my leg to be very sore & stiff - but  
was a very light thing. Our Officers would  
put us to fighting & then let us fight our  
way. Every man did to suit himself  
Loaded & fired at will & took our own  
positions. Saturday we drove the enemy two  
or three miles to the rear of their first line of  
battle. We took their camp & breast works.  
We were among their tents fighting for some  
time but at last drove them from them. We could  
have gotten any thing in the world we wanted  
but were not in the humor to pick up any thing.  
Mr Fisher & White send you their best respects & also  
to Crenshaw - I received Crenshaw's letter the  
morning we went into the fight. The first I  
have got from home since I left. Write soon  
I saw cousin E. E. Moore & told him I should need money  
He said I could have it. I also saw Col. Watts. He is very  
busy doing all he can for our troops. Goodbye. Yours &c. J. H. Hall

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same company were together, so that when our friends were shot down, they seldom had any one near them to care for them. Thus it happened that I was not with Len when he was wounded. I found him yesterday in a hospital & staid with him all of the time. Judge Grey from Texas, Fisher & myself had him buried & this evening Bolling Hall is shot through the arm, and is somewhere now in Richmond at a private house but I cannot find him I shall look for him to morrow again. I understand from boys of our company who came off of the field with him that he was only slightly wounded, that is not seriously I want to find him & get him here where I am as I am in a good place with Maj. Mason & Fisher waiting upon White. You recollect him the poor fellow got his leg broken just below the thigh. The surgeons told him it would have to be cut off. Capt. Fox was killed in the first of the engagement & buried here

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