

Saltville Miss July 18th 1862

My dear father

Brother James received your letter yesterday with one enclosed from Laura. You complained a great deal of our not writing often. We have not written because we have not been stationary long enough to write very often. But since we have been here I have written two letters home myself and Brother James has written one or two. I think we mentioned in them that we were in, Chalmer's Brigade, Withers' Division and Hardie's Corps. Since we last wrote Capt Faulkner has sent up his resignation. There is no telling who will be the officers of the company now. There is going to be a new change made again. All the appointed officers will have to come down and companies will be allowed to elect their own officers. If this be so I think brother James will be elected Captain, but have no idea who will be the Lieut. There are no candidates out yet. In fact I do not know whether this change will be made or not, but the way I got my information was that it was read out on Does Parade to one of the Ala. Reg'ts (I think the 22nd) that company and field ^{officers} should be elected, and appointed officers would have to resign. Even if this were not the case I do not know who would be appointed officers

of this company for there has been none but Brother James recommended yet. I understand that our Colonel (Sharp) is now at the point of death, He went home about two weeks ago very sick and has been getting worse ever since. If we lose him we lose a splendid officer, One who is liked by all his men. But I think we have a very good Lt. Col to succeed him. The Maj (Thompson) has not two ideas scarcely in his head.

Everything that now transpires goes to prove that we are going to leave here shortly. We have a very good place to remain at for a short time at least. There is just as good water here as I ever drank in my life. But if I knew we were going to Chattanooga I would be willing to leave tomorrow morning if we did have to march it. I think I can stand hard marching very nearly as well as any of them.

But I must have good rations to go it on, which unfortunately I could not get the other march.

I was very much surprised to hear that you had left Lucy to Brother Bolling to ride. She will make a splendid war-horse but not near as good as a buggy horse. You also say that you are breaking Black Bess' youngster.

I think she will make a tolerably good buggy animal. And Brother Bolling ^{has} got old Mac again. I saw him following a man in Montgomery the day I left and would have gotten him again but was just about leaving for Tupelo and could not take him. I was very glad to hear that Mac had been recovered. But I

expect he will be lost the first thing now.
If Brother Johnny was not elected in the "Blues" why does not
Brother Bolling appoint him Spt. Maj. of his Battalion.
Lieut Johnson left for Montgomery yesterday. If those boys
have elected him permanently they will certainly be sorry of it,
for he cannot write and how can he fix up a furlough or
discharge for them if he is ever in command of the com-
pany. By the time they miss a few furloughs on account of
that they will know what it is to have officers who know
what they are about. I hear that Bowdoin, Coker, Stewart,
Vinson and some others are running for 2^d Lieut. I expect
it will be close now, would like to be there to see the result.
Groom men continually coming from Montgomery and
South Alabama generally, in learn that cotton is selling
at 13 to 15 cts. That looks strange certain. The people
must begin to think France is going to raise the
blockade. We cannot hear from the fight at Rich-
mond. When the next one writes from home tell them
to tell us who of our acquaintances were killed or
wounded. We cannot hear anything but that the Alabama
Reg't were literally torn to pieces, I dont know how it came
but we have it that the Antauga Rifles came out with only
22 living men. The rest all killed. I must close. Brother
James sends love to all at home, Direct letters to this
place.

Your devoted son
Thomas B. Hall,



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Your devoted son

Thomas B Hall