

Chattanooga Tenn.

July 19th 1862

My dear Father,

I have only time to drop you a short letter. Yours & Laurie's received yesterday. I was glad to learn that you were all well.

We are here at Chattanooga Tennessee. The place is I think a very unhealthy one. We've had some seventeen down very sick besides about ten that were left at Atlanta.

Mac Oden (the Lieut.) will probably die. We have arms. The two flanking companies Enfield Rifles with bayonets the other four common percussion muskets without bayonets.

I am constantly employed now in the duties. I have no doubt that if you were to hear from me through the men you would not learn that I am in much

lower with them for I am bringing
down the strict military rule on
them officers & all. I almost got
exasperated with my officers before
I could get anything out of them
so I adopted old Bragg's plan.
I called them all up & told them
the rules they should go by - re-
quired of each one that he should
attend duty every day unless
excused by the surgeon, appointed an
officers drill show for each
day, and finally told them
that if very shortly they did not
make themselves proficient I
should apply to Gen. McCown
to reduce them to the ranks
& appoint others in their stead
on the ground of their utter in-
competency. This last excited them so
that they are trying a little harder
than they did. I think in a short
time if I can hold up myself I can
make it a well drilled & organized
body but the fact is I have a terribly
green set to deal with. Both the other
battalions are better off than this

though I have one or two good officers.
My Quarter Master is the best
of the Legion & I believe Crenshaw
understands his business very well.

Old Jack is completely jealous of myself
as well as every one else though he
hates my look of the third Bat. worse than
sin. Bondford just arrived so he has
had no chance to show his venom on him.

Cook also is a fool & has commenced by
venting his spleen loudly on Jack & is
now I understand very angry with me al-
together without reason too. Besides

You know that Troy & his Co. all
pretty nearly hate me. I mention
these things so that you can see
the great disadvantage I live under

All the letter writers & talking
men are against me - that is those
who live about Montgomery. For all
this I feel not the slightest care only
that you might be made some time
to feel some uneasiness at things
which may be said. There is
one thing though & that is the
other two Battalions hate each
other worse than they do me

Dont think by this that anything at all has gone wrong or even unusual I merely wish to anticipate what is very apt to be done by those who are jealous of others.

It never troubles me - I attend to my business & am constantly amused listening to Shrimpton's abuse of Cook & Williard when no one present except I & myself & then Cook in his turn on Jack & Williard. And lastly by hearing vague reports (sometimes not so vague) of both of them on me.

The shoes which I started with have bursted by being cut in the sides by the maker - In two days I am afraid I shall be shoeless. Can you not get me a pair No. Six's & send them on. You can probably get them at the State Quarter Master's Department. For goodness sake dont forget it but send them immediately by express or some possibl. Gilbert is sick but better today.

Let me hear from you often

Yr son

B Hall Jr



Lt. Col. B. Hall Jr.
Richards Legion

Due 10

CHATTANOOGA
JUL
20
1862
Ten.

Mr Bolling Hall
Montgomery
Ala.

7/20

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