

Near Chattanooga Aug 15th 1862

My Dear father
I only have time to write a short letter, just to let you know that we expect to leave tomorrow for some place, at present unknown to us. We have been ordered to cook up our baggage, and be ready to march at any moment. I have not the least idea where, or in what direction we are bound. But I don't want to say that Chatham's forces were crossing the Tennessee River yesterday. It may be that we will follow in his footsteps. However there is no reliance to be placed in a man's thoughts concerning the movements of the army. We are always "out Generalized" when we begin to argue where we are going. I'll admit old Bragg "out general" us all and it's no use to talk about that. Provisions every where be very scanty up here now. For sometimes we can't get

any meat for two days. When we are thus
deprived, we are not required to drill.
After starting out for two or three days
they gave us a little beef for dinner
and that evening putting us to drilling
on the strength of it.

Fruit is quite plentiful up here; An a-
bundance of cider &c.

I should have been glad to have gotten into
the Legion (I mean this company) before
we get into a fight. For they will be in
the advance and we in the reserve.

But the application for the transfer has
not been accepted yet. I think the chances
are they will agree to the transfer of
the company.

In your letter to ~~brother~~ James you make
some remarks about what Ellis thought
of him. I am glad to say that the most
of the men in the company think as much
of him as Ellis. They all say that he makes
as good a Capt. as any body they could get
anywhere which I think is so, myself. So Wood
is next the most popular man in the com-
pany. He is a great friend of Brother James'

and a very nice, clever young man.

He took me out privately to day and told me he wanted me to run for 3^d Lieut stating that it was his opinion that I would easily be elected, that there was no other man in the company fit for the place. I told him that I had not said or hinted at such a thing to a single man in the company and that I would not, but that if the company wanted me and elected me I would accept.

I do not know that there is a single candidate for 3^d Lieut, and I think I might stand a chance for it. However I shall let it work itself out.

You told brother James in your letter to tell me you were sorry I could not trust myself home when we passed through Montgomery. I was going on ahead of the regiment with brother James but the cars were too crowded and I stayed with the intention of going home from Montgomery, but remained there so short a time that the Col. would hardly consent for me to go down town to see if I could get to see some of you there. That's my reason for not going home. Why, certainly I should have liked very much to have gone home. I will not perhaps have an opportunity of writing again soon. But will avail myself of the first opportunity. Yrs &c

Tom Hall

Aug 19th 1812

P.S. Since writing the above I have heard the orders read, they are, to keep our army rations cooked all the time and prepared to march at a moment's warning. We may leave now at any minute or it may a week.

I hear that Old Zack Caville is coming up here to get his sons transfers to Desandelebins company. Also that Green Barbour is coming but I know not for what purpose, but suppose it is to get a transfer for his son Dan. It is a great pity that old Zack can (if he can) succeed in getting his sons out of the company. I want them to stay in the company just to spite him, because he hates brother James so

J. N. N.



Near Chattanooga Aug 16th 1862

My Dear father

I only have time to write a short letter just to let you know that we expect to leave tomorrow for some place, at present unknown to us. We have been ordered to cook up two days rations, and be ready to march at any moment. I have not the least idea when, or in what direction we are bound. But I heard to day that Cheatham's forces were crossing the Tennessee River yesterday. It may be that we will follow in his footsteps. However there is no relevance to be placed in a man's thought concerning the movements of the army. We are always "out Generalled" when we begin to argue where we are going. I'll admit Old Bragg "out generals" us all and its no use to talk about that.

Provisions surely must be very scanty up here now! Fore [-] we cant get

[page 2]

any meat for two days. When we are thus deprived, we are not required to drill.

After starving out for two or three days they gave us a little beef for dinner and that evening putting us to drilling on the strength of it.

Fruit is quite plentiful up here; an abundances of cider &c.

I should have been glad to have gotten into the Legion (I mean this company) before we get into a fight. For they will be in the advance an we in the reserve.

But the application for the transfer has not been accepted yet. I think the chances are they will agree to the transfer of the company.

In your letter to brother James you make some remarks about what Ellis thought of him. I am glad to say that the most of the men in the company think as much of him as Ellis. They all say that he makes as good a Capt as any body they could get any where which I think is so, myself. Lt Wood is not the most popular man in the company. He is a great friend of Brother James'

[page 3]

and a very nice, clever young man. He took me out privately to day and told me he wanted me to run for 3^d Lieut stating that it was his opinion that I could easily be elected, that there was no other one in the company fit for the place &c I told him that I had not said or hinted at such a thing to a single man in the company and that I would not but that if the company wanted me and elected me I would accept. I do not know that there is a single candidate for 3^d Lieut and I think I might stand a chance for it. However I shall let it work itself now.

You told brother James in your letter to tell me you were sorry I could not trust myself home when we passed through Montgomery. I was going on ahead of the regiment with brother James but the cars were too crowded and I stayed with the intention of going home from Montgomery, but remained there so short a time that the Col. would hardly consent for je to go down town to see if I could get to see some of you there. That's my reason for not going home. Why, certainly I should have liked very much to have gone home. I will not perhaps have an opportunity of writing again soon. But will avail myself of the first opportunity -. Yrs &c

Tom Hall

[page 4]

Aug 17th 1862

P.S. Since writing the above I have heard the orders read, They are, to keep two days rations cooked all the time and prepared to march at a moments warning. We may leave now at any minute or it may a week.

I hear that Old Zack Carwile is coming up here to get his sons transfers to Debardelebens company. Also that Green Barbour is coming but I know not for what purpose, but suppose it is to get a transfer for his son John.

It is a great pity that Old Zack can (if he can) succeed in getting his sons out of the company. I want them to stay in this company just to spite him because he hates brother James &c

TBH