

Camp Near Tupelo, June 9th 1862

My Dear Annie

I wrote you from near Boonville about a week ago, and I know that you will be disappointed in not hearing from ~~me~~ me the second time sovered but it has been impossible for me to write sovered. Our Regiment was sent out on Picket duty the day after I arrived at Camp and remaining for several days and while we were out the Army fell back from Boonville to where we are now and we had two days hard marching to do to overtake it. We marched 37 Miles in 36 hours. Our Regiment and the 18th Ala. were on Picket duty together. We were at a little Village called Blackland. On Thursday while there we were attacked by 2,000 or 2500 hundred Federal Cavalry. The attack was made in the evening by the enemy driving in our Cavalry Pickets which fell back upon us. As soon as they came in sight Gen. Chalmers who was in command of our infantry ordered us to charge them which was done and they were driven back about a mile and a half across a bridge over a large creek which they took the precaution to tear up as soon as they crossed over to prevent us from pursuing them. There was no one killed or wounded in our regiment. The 18th Ala had 4 wounded. The Cavalry had 1 killed and several wounded. The Artillery had ~~several~~ several wounded. We had 1 killed and 15 wounded in all. It was impossible to tell the loss of the enemy as they carried their killed and wounded to the rear in their ambulances as fast as they fell. The Citizens in the neighborhood who lived on the road by which

They retreated say that their loss was between 50
and 60. It must have been considerable as our
artillery was throwing shells amongst them all
the time they were crossing the Bridge. I had the
good luck or bad luck whichever you may choose to
call it, not to be in the fight. I was sent out about two
hours before the fight commenced to post some Out-
Post Pickets about a mile in advance of our positions
and had it not been for some of our Cavalry Pickets who
shall be mentioned in meeting me in the woods I should
probably have gotten into danger as I had orders to post
my last Picket at the Bridge over which the Yankees
crossed and was not more than a half mile from the
Bridge when they crossed it. Murdy was not with us.
He was too unwell to go with the Regiment out on Picket
duty and was left with the wagons. I did not see
him again until last night when we overtook them.
He has gotten well. We have a hard life to live
here I assure you, but I stand it very well. I
have not slept in a tent since I came here. We
sleep on the ground under the trees. I have
given you all the news I have time to do at
present. The ~~next~~ Mail carrier is hurrying
me. Will write you as soon as we get a
settled camp. Keep the Dear Children for
me. May God Bless you my dearest one
Your Devoted Husband, W. N. Davis

Camp Near Tupelo, June 9th, 1862.

My Dear Bettie:

I wrote you from near Boonville about a week ago and I know that you will be disappointed in not hearing from me the second time sooner but it has been impossible for me to write sooner. Our Regiment was sent out on Picket duty the day after I arrived at Camp and remaining for several days and while we were out the Army fell back from Boonville to where we are now and we had two days hard marching to do to overtake it. We marched 37 miles in 36 hours. Our Regiment and the 18th Ala. were on Picket duty together. We were at a little village called Blackland. On Thursday while there we were attacked by 2,000 or 2500 hundred Federal Cavalry. The attack was made in the evening by the enemy driving in our Cavalry pickets which fell back upon us. As soon as they came in sight Gen. Chalmers who was in command of our infantry ordered us to change there which was done and they were driven back about a mile and a half across a bridge over a large creek which they took the precaution to tear up as soon as they crossed over to prevent us from pursuing them. There was no one killed or wounded in our regiment. The 18th Ala. had 4 wounded. The Cavalry had 1 killed and several wounded. The Artillery had several wounded. We had 1 killed and 15 wounded in all. It was impossible to tell the loss of the enemy as they carried their killed and wounded to the rear in their ambulances as fast as they fell. The citizens in the neighborhood who lived on the road by which they retreated say that their loss was between 50 and 60. It must have been considerable as our artillery was throwing shells amongst them all the time they were crossing the Bridge. I had the good luck or bad luck whichever you may choose to call it not to be in the fight. I was sent out about two hours before the fight commenced to post some out post pickets about a mile in advance of our position and had it not been for some of our Cavalry Pickets who had been driven in meeting me in the woods I should probably have gotten into danger as I had orders to post my last Picket at the Bridge over which the Yankeys crossed and was not more than a half mile from the Bridge when they crossed it. Newt was not with us. He was too unwell to go with the Regiment out on Picket duty and was left with the wagons. I did not see him again until last night when we overtook them. He has gotten well. We have a hard life to live here I assure you, but I stand it very well. I have not slept in a tent since I came here. We sleep on the ground under the trees. I have given you all the news I have time to do at present. The Mail Carrier is hurrying me. Will write you as soon as we get a settled camp. Kiss the Dear Children for me. May God Bless You My Dearest One.

Your Devoted Husband,
N. N. Davis.