

Camp 24th abt 1/2 on Chicamoga
Creek Aug^{31st} 1862

My Dear Letter

Here we are in the woods
about eight or nine miles from Chattanooga and
two or three miles from Timers Station.

We left our camp near Missionary Ridge
early yesterday morning and reached our
present position early in the evening and
and have been lying here ever since waiting
for orders. We are not more than two
miles from the Tennessee River and about
four miles from Harrison Ferry. I
understand that the Yanks are moving
up the River towards Harrison and I
suppose that our Division was ordered
here to prevent them from ^{crossing} the River at
that point. It seems to be the opinion
of all knowing persons that we will have
a great battle soon somewhere along the
line of the River but it is impossible to
tell at what point it will be. Our Army
has been reinforced by two Divisions from

Johnston's Army. Breckinridge's Division is
one of the Divisions ordered here, but I
don't think that it has arrived yet. Every
thing here seems to be in motion. Troops are
moving in almost every direction, and every
preparation is being made for a general
engagement. I received a letter from
you three days ago, but I do not now
remember the date of it, but I think it was the
19th. In packing up my things the other day
to move to my new look or my place, and
I cannot find it. I regret it very much
as I always like to have your last letter
before me when I am writing to you, so
that I can answer all questions asked. But
I don't think your last letter contained anything
which which requires an answer. I was
very much surprised to hear of the difficulty
that Josh Smith has gotten himself into.
I don't feel sorry for him, but I do for his
good old mother. Josh has acted so stra-
ngely that I have lost all confidence in

him. I suppose that the night before will
be void of him now entirely. I am sorry
that Jack has not been to me yet. I suppose
that he has gone back to the Army by this
time. I was glad to hear from Cousin
Boston and that she was as pretty as ever.
I hope that you have had plenty of Rain by
this time. It has been very dry here
for some time and when we are marching
we have to travel in a cloud of dust.

I am now wearing one of the Calico Shirts
you sent me. It fits very well indeed.
I unfortunately tore a large hole in it
yesterday. I was riding through the timber
and a limb of a tree caught in the bosom
and tore a place six inches long. I will
have it sewed up when I pull it off.
The nights here have been very cool
for some time. Last night I slept
under a tree and had to pull three
Blankets on me to keep warm.

I wrote to me Norris & Sister Emily

a few days ago. Give my love to
Pappa Mother and all the Family. When
you see the Pastor ask him why he does
not answer my last letter. He thinks
is very well. He is sadly disappointed
we have gotten a building. No furniture
and granite given to any one. Of course
what a fight is anticipated it put a stop
all furniture. Tell all the dear
Children Howard and Kip them so Pa.
May God in His mercy bless you
in the prayer of your devoted
Aunt Sarah
Christina Weston

P.S. I will write you as often as
I can. If the Ensign make an advance
upon us it may be several days before
an opportunity offers.

Camp 24th Ala. Regt. on Chicamauga Creek.
Aug. 31st, 1863.

My Dear Bettie:

Here we are in the woods about eight or nine miles from Chattanooga and two or three miles from Tinners Station. We left our Camp near Missionary Ridge early yesterday morning and reached our present position early in the evening and have been lying here ever since waiting for orders. We are not more than two miles from the Tennessee River and about four miles from Harrison Ferry. I understand that the Yanks are moving up the River towards Harrison and I suppose that our Division was ordered here to prevent them from crossing the River at that point. It seems to be the opinion of all knowing persons that we will have a great battle soon somewhere along the line of the River but it is impossible to tell at what point it will be. Our Army has been reenforced by two Divisions from Johnston's Army. Breckenridge Division is one of the Divisions ordered here, but I don't think that it has arrived yet. Every thing here seems to be in motion. Troops are moving in almost every direction and every **preparation** is being made for a general engagement. I received a letter from you three days ago, but I do not now remember the date of it, but I think it was the 19th. In packing up my things the other day to move it was lost or misplaced and I cannot find it. I regret it very much as I always like to have your last letter before me when I am writing to you so that I can answer all questions asked. But I don't think your last letter contained anything which requires an answer. I was very much surprised to hear of the difficulty that Josh Smily has gotten himself into. I don't feel sorry for him, but I do for his good old mother. Josh has acted so strangely that I have lost all confidence in him; I suppose that the neighborhood will be rid of him now entirely. I am sorry that Jace has not been to see you. I suppose that he has gone back to the Army by this time. I was glad to hear from Cousin Bettie, and that he was as pretty as ever. I hope that you have had plenty of Rain by this time. It has been very dry here for some time and when we are marching we have to travel in a cloud of dust.

I am now wearing one of the calico shirts you sent me. It fits very well indeed, I unfortunately tore a large hole in it yesterday. I was riding through the bushes and a limb of a tree caught in the bosom and tore a place six inches long. It will have it sewed up when I pull it off. The nights here have been very cool for some time. Last night I slept under a tree and had to put three blankets on me to keep warm.

I wrote to Mr. Norris & Sister Emily a few days ago. Give **my** love to Papa, Mother, and all the family. When you see the Doctor ask him why he does not answer my last letter. Newt is very well. He is sadly disappointed in not getting a furlough. No furloughs are granted now to any one. Of course when a fight is anticipated it puts a stop all furloughs. Tell all the dear children howdy and kiss them for Pa. May God in his mercy bless you is the prayer of your devoted Husband.

Good Bye
Your Newton.

P.S. I will write you as often as I can. If the Enemy makes an advance upon us it may be several days before an opportunity offers.