apparently utter disgust, saying
"No and they wouldn't be there if
they were fighting sure enough."
You may judge that the [illegible]
[illegible] surrounded these ladies looked
rather chewed as chaotic says, but the
[illegible] to be
near could not restrain a burst of
laughter. Among the ladies present
there was a Miss Hill of Natchez
Mississippi, who has the commission
of Major in the Confederate Army.
I do not know how she came by it.
But the Major woman as the sol-
diers call her formed a sort a small
part of the show. Crowds of [illegible]
gathered round her and asked [illegible]
[illegible] about her [illegible]
whispers to reach her ears. A great
many thought she was Miss Boyd

the celebrated Virginia spy. She
[illegible] very coolly. She was
very pretty. The body of her dress
was made of considerate grey cloth
and the major star was in her collar.
This sham battle did not [illegible]
without the shedding of blood and
loss of life. You know there is
so great a much feeling between cav-
alry and infantry that it [illegible]
to [illegible]. When the cavalry would
[illegible] charge the infantry [illegible]
[illegible] the spectators ~~crowd~~ all infantry [illegible]
take an intense interest, and when
the cavalry was repulsed they (the spec-
tators) would [illegible] the air with [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] battle the
cavalry made a dash at an [illegible]
[illegible] The infantry [illegible]
square [illegible] they could get to [illegible]

The cavalry would charge down the
sides of the square beating down the
bayonets with their sabres and attempt-
ing to make an entrance. The [illegible]
were to keep up their fire. It is said
by some that the cavalry struck
~~[illegible] near the hands of the infantry~~
by how the infantry shot some
[illegible] There. One of the [illegible]
have been intentional as a ball
was [illegible] in the body of one of the
[illegible] cavalry men. Another was
killed wounded with a wad and
a third [illegible] very dangerously wounded
with [illegible] comrad which was shot
from a gun. To day was the day
of fast. [illegible] were suspended
[illegible] camp. It has been raining
[illegible] dead this evening and is
still raining. There is a rumour

that our division will go to [illegible]
[illegible] Kendrick has returned and
has taken command of this division.
The troops are still cheerful and
in good health. I believe that the
majority of them look forward to a
successful termination of the war
this year. I have written to Balling
and Crenshaw both since my
return. I found two letters from
B. to me when I arrived in camp.
Tell Laura, Hines, Charlie and Carrie that
I am waiting an answer from them [illegible]
[illegible] Tell Frank & J. I will write
[illegible] soon. I am anxious to know
how Carrie came out at the examina-
tion. Tell Carrie she must kiss that young
lady for me again. Love to all,

Your Affec Son

Jas H [illegible]

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