

Letter 9

Loudon Tennessee

Nov 26th 1864

to you Dear wife & children this morning finds me well & in my tent a trying write a few lines to you of my where abouts my last Sheet i wrote to you was in nash ville i dont no what to write to you now i just finished that one in nash ville and was hurried off to chatanooga 150 miles further we Pased through murfersboro the Place where Rosencrans had that hard Battle and it looks hard about there it is hardly a mile But there is Something destroyed By the war chatanooga is a hard looking Place look out mountain is on one Side the town and mishion Ridge on the other Side there is about 30.000 troops here now and they are a runing out to knoxville as fast as they can they Expect a Battle there

a tuesday morning i got in chatanooga & it was so cold that i thought we would freeze to death we never got in a Shelter till allmost Sundown & nothing to Eat from monday noon in nashville there we drawd 8 crackers a piece & a Small piece of pork tuesday & wednesday thursday we drawd 3 days rations that was 12 crackers & a Small Piece of pork & Started for ring gold down in Georgia never got of the cars right Back up to this Place Loudon got here friday about 3 o clock & Stood there in ranks till Sun down then we had to pitch our tents & get our Suppers make coffee & fry our meat & eat our hard tack the hard tack is crackers about 4 inches Square 1/2 inch thick if they was Salt i could eat 15 of them Every meal the country So far is very hilly & Stony But Some very fine orchards & Some of them Laid in ruins & Every now & then we pass a celler hole with a Beautiful walk out to the Road & very often a grave yard with 2 or 3000 poor Soliders Buiried if i was to give away to my feeling i could Shed tears the whole time to See the horers of war to See the Poor women & children raged & dirty with a pie or so to Sell or a cake Every thing is very high

knoxville is about 30 miles above here and that good Democrat Breckenridge that run for President four years ago is the Rebel General there with 30.000 troops Perhaps we will have to go yet Before it is ended you would look to See the trains go By loaded with men 12 to 15 cars full inside & on the top a yelling at the top of their voices all for old Breckenridge to flail him out of tennessee i have often Said that i was Satisfied with my Situation in wisconcin & now i am Better than Ever this is the hardest looking country that i have Seen in a long time your home there is a happy one compared with this & the Land one acre is worth ten of this Every time this is nothing But hills & rocks i was talking with a man yesterday he has always lived here he Said this was about the best of the county the mud now is from four to Six inches deep Splash right through out our boots looks like old Bake ovens all yellow mud So Be contented with your home and i will Be Satisfied with my lot if Posible Direct your letter to Loudon tennessee in care of Capt A M Phillips (wills Penny) Send the money if you can H.B.Row

Letter 10

Loudon Tennessee Nov 28th 1864

this afternoon finds me well & in my quarters a trying to write a few lines to let you know how i feel on the Subject of the war they may all Say they like it for my part i dont Every day goes worse we got here a Thursday Evening friday it rained Saturday & Sunday also Saturday we pulld up our tents & moved in andersons large Brick Building Laid on the floor the house is about 120 feet long and by 30 feet wide the men laid down with their head against the wall around the out Side and two rows through the center So you may think how full it was three Stories high the petitions all torn out Sunday we had to move across the Street in a large hotell the government has

wounded 6000 of the rebels near franklin that is about 20 miles South of Nashville & he Epects to get of in this direction to meet Breckinridge But he will have to work Sharp if he Does the North has the most of the advantage in Every thing you would be Surprised to See the Soldiers when they get called out to go and fight when they were Sent above here to fight Breckenridge at Bulls gap

Letter 11

Thursday Dec 1st 1864

Loudon Tennessee

To you Dear wife & children this afternoon finds me well & hope this to find you the Same we just got our dinners & i have washed my Shirt and hung it up to dry you Laugh to See us go to the river to wash Some times 15 or 20 of us together the Best of water to wash with here the river here is about as wide as from our house to the lower End of the corn field or wider if any difference the railroad Bridge is Eleven long Spans this is a old town on the old map it is called Philadelphia this is the place where our General Burnsidess had the hard Scratch with the Rebel General wheeler the Rebels Burnt the Bridge and found they could not hold the Place they run lots of their Engines in the river they are plain to Be Seen yet.

But the Soldiers was hurried out there & caught 5 of them & hung them right up The Gurilaes & Bushwackers make a great deal of trouble through here

Saturday 3d this morning i just Returnd from Picket Duty have Been out 24 hours & it is raining like fun we now draw our rations But they are Small the loaves of Bread is hardly 6 inches Square and we get a half of a loaf a day & a tin cup of coffe and a piece of meat about as large as your three fingers By the time it is fried it is a Small thing and that is the way it

Letter 12

Dec 28th

1864

this afternoon i think looks the lonest of all times the Soldiers are all growling about their rations we are now all cut down to quarter rations & i tell you that it is hard to Stand it i rote to you to Send me Some money i told you how i lost my Pocket Book & all in it & the good friends that i got with lent me Some or else i Should have Starved for the want of Some thing to Eat Please Send Some as Soon as you can it is hard Enough to Be Placed here to be Shot at & i dont want to Starve if it takes my years wages But that i cant get hold of yet So you must help me if you can we are Placed here Between two armies & our Suplies are cut off

30th Friday this afternoon finds me well & trying to write you a few lines i just got Relieved from Picket Duty i have to Stand Every other day now & you cant think how cold the wind Blows here the ground freezes hard Enough in 24 hours to cary any team the next day it will thaw & be all mud again we got the news here that the President has called for three hundred thousand more may heavens choicest Blesings Rest upon them i am here & i think i know how to Pity them But i Shant discourage any one for Some likes to Be here But it haint I the news comes in good from the East of us we have destroyed the Rebels Salt works completely & i have got the greatest faith to Believe that this Rebellion is about Broken up Sherman has given them Some hard Blows this while Past

i Suppose that you underStand that hood cut the railroad So we could not get any male through that was the reason i did not write to you for Some time past now Send me all the news how are you getting along i want to hear from Pace & Peter Alt cook & Brother & his family & all Enquireing friends tell newton where to Direct to me & mr west and all who wants to know & them that dont want

to know & when i get money So i can get Postage Stamps i will write more
tell willie to Be of good cheer it Be that i will get home again & Relieve
him of Some of his labor tell him to write & the girls to i want to hear
from you all mother Adams & mrs cook & dona knapp i dreamt of her twice
Since i have Been here

yesterday i went out & dug a grave for a citazen that died here in this town
they call this about the handsomest valey in this Part of tennessee & it took
me a half day faithful to dig it have to pick the dirt all with a Sharp
Pointed pick

i wrote to you to Send me Some money Please Send Some i dont know what i
would have done if i hadent fell in with good friends i want you to Send
them you good wishes to mr Smith & mr George Remington i will allways Remember
them it looks hard to Send home for money But i cant help it the rations we
get is to Small for me tell how maria gets along with her Boys if i was to
give away to my feeling how i feel about you all there i could not take much
comfort here may god Bless you all Yours H.B. Row

Letter 13

Jan 3d 1865

To you Dear wife & children this afternoon finds me well as usual I Recd
your letter dated Dec 8th & you cant Begin to think how glad i was to hear
from home for it was the first Scratch that i have had from home Since i
Started from there But i was heartily Sory to hear that Pace was drafted
may god have mercy on him & the time Speedily come when the war will come to
a close Every thing looks Brighter Every day & if i Ever live to get home i
will tell you how it goes here with me i never Shall write it to you if i

it is the expectation that we
will start for some point South
to morrow if we dont i will write
to you again i dont feel well to
day, i have got such a disenterary and
i am cold as a frog all day though
i say it to the froth beging to
that we have 3 the Switt coffee
it takes about a barrel of coffee
Every time we eat you would be
surprised to see how some of them
Drinks it if adam is drafted has to
got to wear you had better try & get
some one to move in the house
with you for the way things is going
there will certainly be hard times
there with you the help will be
so scarce i have not written to
my Brother get yours truly
H. B. Brown

Wash. Mills Tennessee

Nov 21st

1864

9
to you Dear wife & children this morning
finds me well & hope this to find you the
same we started from Louis ville on
Sunday morning at 7 o'clock & expected
to get through to this place at 7 in the
evening but got Bethard on the road
& did not get here until this morning at
daylight the quirellan about 20 miles
from here turned the Switt and over
us of the track the Engine & two
car me Body hurt right in the woods
and they found there was so many of
us so they did not attack us there
was about 3000 of us we dont know how
many of them it was dark as a negroes
Pocket you better believe there was
some josteling about then you will
look on the map & see Louis ville Kentucky

now the way they serve the
Guineas every union soldiers
that they kill they shoot 4
Guineas for the same they
But their names in a Box &
I got them the same a we where
then 12 men with guns to
Every one of them & of them
loaded with Balls & with powder
then down comes their meat house
Aberman has released some of our
Prisoners & Grant has thrown up
4 Regiments that is the news
where now But I doubt it get

Direct your letters to
Capt. F. H. Phillips

Foulton Janm 1864

Foulton
Janm 1864

Jan 20th

1864

To you. Dear wife & children this morning
finds me well & in my best a trying
write a few lines to you of my where
abouts my last sheet is wrote to
you was in work while I don't know
what to write to you now I just
finished that one in Wash. D.C.
and was hurried off to Chataronga
150 miles further we had through
miserable the place where prisoners
had that hard Battle and it looks
hard about there it is hardly a
mile but there is something destroyed
by the war Chataronga is a hard looking
place look out mountain is on one side
the town & Indian Ridge on the
other side there is about 80,000 troops
here now and they are a coming

we passed through mumpford with the
place where there was a battle fought
some time ago the stars & stripes float
to the breeze there in the fort & at
Burling Green there was another battle
you will remember that is a large town
the fort is on top of the hill Back
of the city another on the other side of
the river if looks like a long
distance that Grant had to throw
the shells to fetch them out of their
holes But he did Burling Green is in
Kentucky & that is as rough as the
Breach roads the most of the way that
we travelled through we passed through
the longest tunnel that i ever seen
Some part of the country is very handsome
Every thing looks like war here this
morning the Bayonets sticking up
in every part of the town that we
can see

This morning came a man from Sand
county & his town was captured again &
most all taken & the town joining
it took every thing there is so many
run away but the government says
they shall be treated as deserters
Sunday 13th to day every thing
is in motion we have been out
for General inspection after the Big
Rings went through with their perfor
mance we had to move to Barnetts
No 1 you would have laughed to
see the morning i think they regard
the Sabott here just about as much
as the Devil does i cant compare
them with nothing else

I have for some time neglected to
write you a letter as i thought i should
but it will all change ^{at} Heber's that
i dont know when he will get
clear they hold him for pay for his
letter. So far follow he looks love some
here

a Tuesday morning i got in Chatawoga
& it was so cold that i thought we would
freeze to death we never got in a shelter
till all next Sunday & nothing to
eat from Monday noon in wash ville
there was dinner & crackers a piece &
a small piece of pork Tuesday &
Wednesday Thursday we dined 3 days
nothing that was in crackers & a small
piece of pork & started for my gold
down in Georgia never got of the car
right back up to this Staac London
got here Friday about 3 o'clock &
that were in ranks till sun
down then we had to pitch our
tents & get our supplies make
coffers & try our mounts & eat our
hard tack the hard tack is crackers
about 4 inches square & 1/2 inch thick
if they was left i could eat 10
of them every meal the country
do not is very healthy & strong

A horse of them had in pairs &
Every man & horse we kept a collar
hole with a Beam that walk on the
the Road & carry often a grain yard
with 2 or 3000 pair. Soldiers Business
if i was to give away to my family
i could shot bear the whole time to
be the horses of war to be the
For women & children regard & safety
with a pie or to be left or a cake
Every thing is very high Knox
ville is about 30 miles above here
and that good Democrat
Breckenridge that own for President
four years ago is the Rebel General
there with 30000 troops Perhaps
we will have to go yet. Perhaps it
it is ended you would best take
the trains go in contact with men
12 to 15 cars full inside & on the top
a getting at the top of their
noises all for all Breckenridge