

Camp near Sweet Water

November 4th 62

Mr. L. M. Jones: Dear brother, I thought I would write you a few lines, by Mr. Cook, as I hear, he is to start for West, I am in the morning setting, but I have but little to write, I have almost here so often I know not what to write you at. My health is good at this time, though I have not enjoyed good health much of the time since I have been in camp. It is great thing to have health, especially away from home & exposed as we are. We have a hard time indeed, often while a Schoolboy have my eyes glanced over, the lines, I heard, indeed was the sentiment for freedom & the struggle for independence, but never did I realize it, but I think I can now, but I will not trouble you, by attempting to tell of hardships I have undergone since I saw you. It is enough for me to know I have escaped unhurt, whilst many of my acquaintances have met their destiny, I cannot but feel thankful to our wise God that my fate is such. Four times have I been where ever, battle raged, where the terrible thunder of cannon & deafening roar of musketry, played their destruction, which told of many a death, I have not been touched, or what was shot a little at high ground. Here I cannot see how I escaped & only through a providential war. O how much more humble & religious we ought to live there we do. I could tell you something of the late battle of Chicomanga, but I have written here concerning it & you no doubt have seen a full account in the papers. Our loss in the Regt was tolerably heavy. We lost our Brigadier Gen. Smith in the 1st Regt in a night attack. It was a hard fought battle, but we gained the victory & routed the enemy. There was a fight at Orizaba, Chatternaga a few days ago but I have not learned the particulars. I have now captured a number of prisoners. There was also

I have been very busy since we
arrived here a few days since in which we
had a cavalry fight near here a few days since in which we
captured several hundred prisoners & great many horses
by Diffie's command. but I must not write
too much war news. I do first know in whose
hand this army falls. We left Chattanooga on October
1st. Chattanooga is situated which is camped near
in the rail road, near Sweet water 12 miles from Tondo,
where the bridge across Tennessee was burned. I also -
Stephens' son's division. Bro Frank tells me what has
become of Frances O'Daniel & Daniel W. Whittington.
I have not heard of them in some time. I have never
received any letters from you, only once or two from home
I am anxious to hear from you all. Write the first chance
I write every time I think a letter will get to my
I wish I could see you all, but cannot tell when. Little
did I think I would have to stay so long, but I remember
well you told me that a war was approaching & I would have to
fight. Little did I think I could withstand the thought.
but Alas! my fate is a hard one indeed. Let Sir Hapley
to write to me. I want to see little John & the little
girl. Elsie & John Wright are both well. All the boys
I think of now. Bro Frank is certain to write to me for
I am anxious to hear from him. I respect to Mr
O'Daniel & family. Dr. Goldridge died near Chattanooga in
the summer. My paper is not lined & I write so seldom
I fear you will not read. I cannot close. Let Sir Hapley
I desire an interest in her progress. Brother let us believe that
if we meet no more this side of death, we shall meet above
to part no more, let us pray for each other. Do not fail
to write & give me all the news. My paper is exhausted
My respects to all, your brother P. V. Farries Co. K. 12 Inn. Va