

Camp near Triana
Franklin Co Tenn
Decr 20th /62

Gen. M. & J. H. Love

Dear parents:— I wrote an indifferent letter to you a few days ago and in it I said I would give you a history of our travels since my last letter which was from near Kingston in East Tenn. From there we crossed the Mountains into Middle Tenn following the rear of the enemy as they went by Nashville and on up through Ky to Bowling Green within ~~paper~~ them and went ~~up~~ up to Braggs army which we passed at Glasgow and we were afterward on the left and front of the army until we were in about twenty miles of Louisville where we turned to the East and came out at Cumberland and Big Creek Gapes down to Knoxville where we remained for some weeks when we came to Kingston where we remained a week or two and then came over to Sparta where we remained several days and from there by moderate marches we came to this place.

I will now give a few of the incidents of this long and apparently, useless trip— first as the enemy began to retreat they were in the necessity of destroying a good deal of their property and as they marched a good many of them deserted and came to forces to be paroled, we had but little fighting as we went Northward until we got Mumfordsville the place where Terry was killed (it is called Woodsonville by the Rangers) at this place Chalmers Brigade of Withers Division attacked the enemy in their fortifications and was repulsed— it was a foolish and wicked affair as he had only two thousand men and attacked four thousand five hundred of the enemy behind fortifications there were about two hundred of our men killed and wounded a few days after this we surrounded the place and took it with all the wagons arms ammunition and camp equipage we then went on to Poston in about thirty miles of Louisville and turned East toward Cumberland Gape as we went the cavalry picketed between our infantry and Louisville the picket put out after

we got to Boston I was one of them we heard there were
three thousand yankees at Lebanon junction we went there
to see late at night and on the way got a citize to conduct
us to the place but the yankees had burned every thing and left
we had hardly any sleep that night and next morning
after going up the R.R. about a mile we stopp'd
and the boys as quick as they were off their horses
lay down on the ground and went to sleep the yankees
came suddenly on us in that fix and caused a stampede
of about ~~six~~^{six miles} in short order the boys who had gone to
sleep had let their horses loose and when the stampede
began their horses left them consequently some twelve or
fifteen of them were captured all but one of them
were Georgians the yankees persued us closely for the six
miles where some twenty of us formed to fight them ten of them
came up about the time we were formed we fired and charged
them wounding three of them and capturing seven - a Georgian
and myself persued one of them through a corn field to
the top of a hill and saw him about one hundred and fifty
yds from us and near about forty others standing in
the road where we had pass'd a little before there
were about three hundred after about sixty of us
a part of them knowing the country better than we did
cut across from the road we were on to the Boston and Bards-
town road expecting to cut us off four of them got down to the
road at a place where Cheatham's Division wagons were passing
captured and stopp'd the train and also about seven or eight
of our boys who went back one at a time to see what was the
reason for the train not coming up the first of the who
went back were in the power of the yankees before they
saw them and the others came up under the impression
that the yankees were prisoners they were all
however soon captured back again. when we got to

Bardstown Whartons Brigade were put on the pike
Road at Mt Washington in about eighteen miles of
Louisville and remained there till the Infantry had
time to rest a couple of weeks and every thing then
started on the march for Cumberland Gape as we fell
back our cavalry were fighting the yankees every day for
some time clear up till we began to cross the mountains
when we left Mt Washington the yankees were very cautious not
to press us very fast and also not to get in our rear - they got me
pretty fair lost in this respect before we had fallen to Mt W
by running into an ambuscade we had fallen back twelve or fifteen miles
and was in about five miles of Bardstown when the yankees came
to the conclusion they would surround and capture us there
was enough of them to do this as they had a whole Division of infantry
and several thousand cavalry to effect it with they succeeded in getting
fifteen hundred cavalry between us and Bardstown and formed in
seven or eight sections across the road and their infantry and artillery
were coming up on each side and in six or eight hundred yds of the road
their artillery lacked about ten minutes of getting in position - we had been
waiting for them to approach us on the road and Wharton being in error
supposing Wheelers Brigade were guarding about Bardstown left his rear unguarded
when we learned that the enemy were in our rear we started at alope and went
four miles in thirty minutes - the Cedar Springs (a Tennessee company) and
the Texas Ranger ahead when we began the fight and not more than two
hundred and fifty of our men were engaged before the enemy were entirely
routed and running for life - according to report about fifty of them were
killed we also took forty two prisoners - the next fight we were in of any
consequence was at Perryville - at this there were about twenty five hundred
of our men killed and wounded and the yankees say we killed and wounded
about three of them to one of ours - after crossing the Mt nothing of
interest took place till we got here - Morgan captured over two thousand of
them at Hartsville and a number of wagons some other small captures have
been made but none of any consequence - we are standing picket

