

Dear parents:

This leaves me in tolerable good health but yet undetermined whether to join this (Col. Whartons Reg or to go and join Stones Regmt so that I might be with Saml & John if they are alive of which I am somewhat doubtful if they were in the fight when McCulloch and McIntosh were killed from all I can learn it was a severe fight and continue

the enemy they are also well armed and we have a good
 many cannon of all sorts of sizes - I am of the opinion
 that Genl Buell and Genl Grant have joined their
 forces and now have on the Tenn River about twenty
 miles North of where I am ^{130,000 to 150,000 men} at this time Grants forces came
 down the River on One Hundred and Sixty transport boats of
 kinds - Buells made a grand movement from Nashville
 twenty days ago coming in this direction - they are

Men who act as spies and informers for the Yankee
army and thereby been the cause of a great many of our
Sick Soldiers to be taken as well as a good many of the
more prominent citizens - They got information at
one place between Nashville and Murfreesborough and
went fifteen miles off the road to make a prominent
Secessionist a prisoner and with him they got five
Sick Soldiers - As I have before told you was at old Mr
Petty's about five miles from a little R. R. town by
the name of Tulahoma - Six Hundred and Eighty of
the enemys cavalry came to that place and had been there
nearly twenty four hours before I knew any thing

I understand that Vandorn and Price will possibly
be here with their forces to take part in the fight
if so I will try to see the boys - I also hear that Siegel
with about forty thousand of the enemy are at New
Madrid and with the positions of our forces and the
enemies there is no telling how many of either
side will be in the engagement - I have heard that
we have strong batteries below the enemys transports
if this is the case and they are supported by a strong
force of cavalry and infantry there will be no
chance for them to pass down the river to bring
up more forces - I have also learned just a little