





There is a great many rumors about our  
 getting furloughs this fall & am in hopes  
 we may get them & come home alive once  
 but if fate is against us & we have to stay  
 I intend to stay here until I can come  
 home honorably for a deserter now has  
 no claim to on any ones sympathy - I believe  
 that we will come this fall that is if this fight  
 ever get over good love to you & all the  
 family respects to all enquiring friends  
 Yours Son J. M.

Dear Father & Mother

I have but little news to write  
 except I should tell you about the recent battle  
 & I suppose John has told you all about it  
 however I will say this much that after  
 fighting the yankees one day & a half they met  
 the infantry & they stopped them & we came  
 up behind them & attacked them the infantry  
 quit fighting as soon as we attacked in  
 their rear & they (the yankees) turned their  
 whole attention to our brig. & with about  
 4000 men they ran over our brig. of  
 about 400 but we continued to killed them  
 until they all passed. We killed & wounded  
 about 5000 we lost one gun of our bat-  
 tery & captured one gun & 4 flags from  
 them they got a few of our horses. Gen. Kilpat-  
 rick told two cit's that he did not expect to whip  
 the brig. but he was going to run over it with over  
 10000 men & he done it but he



did not make anything for he lost a good  
 many men & horses while he was at it for the  
 bys all fought like bull dogs killing  
 & wounding a great many after they  
 commenced firing us. - Gen. Wheeler  
 has been in their rear 12 or 15 days & the  
 understanding here is that he is going to  
 stay there if the yankees do not reinforce  
 enough to whip him & it is the general  
 impression here that gen. Sherman will  
 have to attack soon or go back to Chattanooga.

There is great deal of speculation  
 here as to whether the yankees will  
 be able to hold their position or not.