

E. To. Mrs. Ellen Newton. Mt. Carmel, Mississippi

1862

Corinth Miss April 26th

Dear Mother

I seat myself to write you a few lines this morning. As I know you are anxious to hear from me and I see I have received a letter from Cholly yesterday evening she said that all of her folks were well and that you had not received but one letter from me since I left home I do not know the reason that you have not received more than that from me for I have written four or five letters to you since I left home, We are at this place now and I expect will stay here until we have a fight here which is not far off I am afraid on last Tuesday evening we had orders to cook three days provisions and be ready to march at 4 o'clock & next morning we cooked three days provisions but did not march until about 11 o'clock next day we went on to Monterey about 10 miles from here & we went out as picket guards we had to lay out in the woods when day night without any tents or fire next morning about eleven o'clock we were ordered to form a line battle but the enemy were advancing on us the 10th & 5th Mississippi Regiments were in advance of us about two miles the enemy commenced firing on them they fought about an hour and our men fell back to Monterey our regiment was not engaged that day

the evening Isaac was ordered to come back to camp with
the ammunition and I got permission to come back with
him as I was not well and not able to keep up with
the regiment the regiment is out at Monterrey yet
I expect they are a fighting this morning I heard
heavily firing in that direction this morning
At the opinion of some that we will have a big fight
here in less than a week, I am in hopes that we will
not have a fight here at all for course you there is no
fun in fighting I am perfectly satisfied with
what fighting I have done though I expect I will
have to fight some more before this war is ended,
I hear no talk of peace at this place but I am
in hopes that peace will be made in a few
months, I have not been well since the fight
we had two weeks ago I have had the Diarrhea ever
since the fight though I am able to go about very near
all of the regiment to his a great many have died since
the fight with the Diarrhea and typhoid fever
Isaac is sick this morning with head ache and back
ache, I recend is caused by fatigue I am in hopes he
will be well in few at a days I think I will be
enough for any duty in a few days though I don't
think I can ever stand hard marching walking
10 or 15 miles a day soon had me down,
I have not received but one letter from home since
I left I would like for Jim Gaps to write to me
oftener if can tell uncle Kirby to write to
me I been thinking I would write to him

but I can never find time to write. I wrote to
Major Hartog one day last week about paying
my taxes I wrote to him that you and him must
arrange it the best way you can. I do not know
how money matters are down in your country
though I expect they are very bad tell some to
write to me whether Mr Dur paid you or
not if he has paid you you can pay your taxes
ser easy, it would be the best to sell your cotton
and pay your taxes if you can sell cotton I expect
there is no chance to sell cotton. Tell Jim Dab
to plant out all the potatoes that he can we must
be making a living at home or no living at all
he must attend to the boys as well as he can and
raise all the pigs that he can. Bill Dab had letter
from Jim yesterday and said that all of the wheat
was ruined with the rust that is very bad on us
for I know that you all want flour while the
soldiers all want corn bread we do not get
any corn bread at all in camp nor any vegetables
to eat, I never wanted ~~to~~ vegetables as bad in
my life as I do now, I do not know when I can
come home I will come as soon an opportunity
is offered me, I would like to come next month
if I could. I will try and write to every week
it rained here all day yesterday all day and the ground
is very wet and we have to ~~see~~ sleep on the ground
with nothing ~~+~~ but ~~our~~ blankets and quilts to
keep us off the ground we have tents the ground

and cold. They have the mumps at the hospital in Corinth
I expect we will all have them before long
If I get sick I am a going down to Hazelhurst
if they will let me, Col Goode Resigned last
we and went home he resigned because some of
the Generals did not treat him right we hated
to see him leave us very bad for will
not get another man that will make as good
a Colonel as he was. Give my respects to
all inquiring Friends ~~you~~

your Son

Owen Newton