

Monteville Alabama

May 24th 1864

Dear Mary it has been but a short
time since I wrote to you but I promis-
-ed to ^{write} whenever I had an opportunity there-
-fore having a few spare moments this morn-
-ing I take my pen to address you a few
lines. We arrived at this place on yester-
day evening; and was in hopes of receiv-
ing a letter from you but was disappointed
Will received one from Sarah but none from
home. I expect we shall leave here on
tomorrow but where to I cannot tell.
one rumour says we are going to Chatanooga
and another to Dalton Ga. but I do not
know whether either is correct

This is the most delightful place I ever
saw in respect to the grandeur of its
scenery. The city is situated in a valley
with towering hills on either side cov-
-ered with the ~~the~~ most dense forest. Then

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The springs are the largest I ever saw
there is one in the east part of the city
which supplies the entire town with
water having a stream almost as
large as Wolfcreek flowing from it.

The news still appears to be very good
from all parts and officers and men
all appear to be in very good spirits.
They all appear to think the war will
be over in a few months I hope. it
may but I shall not set myself up
to much with that thought for fear
I might be disappointed.

My health is still good I stood the march
very well although it was a very hard one
on account of the hot weather we had
a good deal of fun on the way through
it ~~was~~ was a grand sight to see the
army cross Elk river we had it to wade
and in order to keep dry we had to
take off our cloths. I think there was
never more naked yankees in one
place before there being about fifteen
thousand of us.

We have had plenty of rations on the march although it is not as good as we get in camp. Hard tack and fat meat coffee and sugar is our living on the march; but I have a very good appetite and I can get along very well with it but if I was at home and had nothing better I expect I should growl considerably. B. A. Wiley is still sick he and Eli with others were sent from Tulack through on the cars to this place.

Mary I hear no talk of us being paid off yet I fear you will stand in need of money before I get any yet but you will have to try and get along as well as you can till I am paid then I will send it immediately.

I will close ~~now~~

my love to you
and the children

G. M. Coulson