

Head Quarters 4th Ky. Cavalry,
Chattanooga, 25th of September, 1863.

My dear Sister, —

The last week has been one of momentous events, full of disaster to our cause. The army was totally defeated on last Sunday, and is now cooped up in this place the river in its rear and an army of 100,000 men in its front.

Our brigade left Kingston, Ala., on last Sunday to join the main army. Crossing Lookout Mountain on that day, we camped at its eastern base, and at day break started for Crowfish Springs where we had been imperatively ordered. After going within 3 miles of that place, we came upon a heavy picket of the enemy, and discovered our forces had been defeated the day before, and that we were in the enemy's lines — completely cut off and surrounded. We determined to cut our way through to this point. Pressing a guide we crossed to the main Valley road, and at