

Dallas Davidson Letters

20th Tennessee Infantry Co. G

James Garrett Dallas Davidson

Born Nov. 4, 1844

Enlisted June 11, 1864

Died July 28, 1862 at Camp Trousdale, Tennessee

Camp Trousdale

June 23 1861

Dear Mother

I write a few lines to you today to let you know I am well except bad cold I am very well satisfied here We have plenty to eat and plenty to do mounting Guard drilling and Cooking there are six regiments here 3 of them have orders to leave today but they do not know where they will go to Our regiment have not got arms yet and we do not know how long we will be here but we may leave in a few days we will have muskets as there is no rifles There are a good many men sick with the measles here some die with it I want you to write to me [illegible] it to the care of Captain [illegible] Camp Trousdale Tennessee

Your affection Son

Rick Law Station Summer County Camp Trousdale

July 10, 1861

J D Davidson To Mother

Dear Mother

Pen in hand to let you know I am well at this time am in hopes when these few lines comes to home that will find you enjoying the good blessing. We have a good many cases of the measles in camp, but I have escaped so far we have about twenty three down in our company but that's all. Well in our company there is about fifteen hundred down with the measles in this encampment. A [illegible] to the sick list. We have plenty to eat here, we have Bupen [sic] beef and mutton. We have sugar, coffee, rice, dried apples, peaches and molasses. We have stopped up the railroad running from Nashville

to Louisville. Now about the war fair [sic] some thinks we will go to Louisville and some thinks we will go to Canton and some thinks we would have to go no place till we start home. We have drawn seven 36cts dollars a piece yesterday and we get twenty seven dollars for our uniforms and we get forty dollars to [illegible] with. Tell my sisters I wrote two letters already now I want you all to write to me without fail so tell our neighbors and friends I am well and doing well so I will have to close. Now Mother write and direct your letter to Camp Trousdale in the care of battery Shy of Col [illegible]atte Ridge Wright.
From J D Davidson
To Mother and family

Knoxville

Aug. 10th, 1861

Mistress Davidson,

I take my pen in hand to inform you that we are in tolerable good health at this time we are in poor – spirits [sic] as this is a bad place for encampment and very muddy we have only sixty men of our company here some 10 of them a little sick. We left Dallas at Camp Trousdale when we left he was down with the measles but not in any particular danger [illegible] at the time. John Rossen was left to wait on him and he has arrived here and it now devolves upon me to acquaint you with the death of Dallas he died on the 28th of July his death was very easy not suffering apparently at all Palmer's Regiment buried him with the honors of war [illegible] in the graveyard at that place James Gary was buried at the same time. We have lost five men out of our Company by sickness and I can only say by way of consolation to you that Dallas is regretted by the whole Company and they deeply sympathize with you in your affliction from your friend and acquaintance

J. J. Kelly

Back of letter

Dear Madam

I have the painful news to write to you of the death of your son Dallas. We left him at Camp Trousdale. When we left there for Virginia I left him and James Gray and W. B. Campbell and on Sunday after wards him and Gary died. He died satisfied as I am told by the doctor who tended on him. The doctor informed me that he had no money when he died. he said he had loaned his money to the boys. I will find out who he loaned it to and get it and send it to you. I will draw all the money that is coming to him and send it to you tonight. We are all well that is here. We have a good many in the hospital so nothing more at present [illegible] but remaining your friend until death

R D Anderson

Mrs. Mary Ann Davidson, Dear friend I was not present when Dallas died but I believe that he was well attended to while sick. I regret the loss of him and think Dallas was a solid soldier and was beliked [sic] by the whole company. Yours truly

R. A. Boyers