

# THE CITADEL Bivouac at Gadsden Ala.

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

Friday October 31<sup>st</sup> 64

My precious Wife &

I wrote you from Cedar Town Ga. on the 9<sup>th</sup> inst. and sent the letter by mail. - I hope you have received it several days since. - This Army has been marching every day since we crossed the Chattahoochee on the 29<sup>th</sup> of Sept. last. From Cedar Town we marched up to the R.R. & made a feint of it from Beaca to Tunnel Hill. - Our Corps (now Com'd by Cheatham) destroyed the road, from Dalton to Tunnel Hill, & our Division did the work at Dalton capturing the garrison of 750 negro soldiers & 100 whites. I spent my birthday in part tearing up R.R. & on the march from Dalton to Villavona, which is 15 miles south west of Dalton. - Our Army is here now, having arrived last night. - We will take up the march again this afternoon for Northern Ala & Tenn. This is a great undertaking & I trust that the Spirit of God will go along with it. - If you will look on the map you will see what a march we have performed. From Guntown to Polkville, Powder Spring, Cedar Town, Cave Spring, across the Coosa & up to Beaca, Dalton & Tunnel Hill, & then down to Villavona, Alpin & now here at Gadsden; in all a march of 257 miles. - We are very much fatigued, my darling when we stop to camp at night. - We have had two mails since we left Polkville; our

at Cedar Town, and the other at this place. I  
send this by an opportunity to be mailed  
So. Lea. D. S. Such a length of time has never  
before passed without <sup>my</sup> writing to you my dear  
Father. I am so much engaged, & our march  
is so constant that I have not had time  
to write you even at night, & our starts are  
always at Day light. We are halting here to  
get shoes for our poor footed men; of whom  
I have 20 in my Regt. I omitted to tell  
you that my Regt. was sent out to hold a  
Gap in Taylor's Ridge, near Villanow. The en-  
emy, in force, pressed me heavily, & I lost some  
20 of my men, three of my best Officers were  
Captured. Sherman is said to be fol-

lowing us, but I doubt if he is, in force. If he  
really is, however, I can't say how it will affect  
our march towards Tull. I was gratified at  
the kind manner in which I was nominated  
for the Legislature, but I am very sorry that I did  
not see the nomination in time to withdraw my name.  
The first I knew of it, was in your letter & Bowie's paper,  
rec'd at Cedar Town on the night of the 8<sup>th</sup> - the  
election day being the 11<sup>th</sup> only three days from that  
time. - I had no mail, nor telegraphic opportu-  
nity by which I could, with draw, yet I wrote  
to the Courier so doing, & sent my vote to Sage.  
My men, who would have gladly voted for me, knew  
nothing of it, & I suppose the Charleston Soldiers  
in Va. did not know of it, and so I will