Eli Pinson Landers letters: 1861-1863

Introduction

Eli Pinson Landers was born in 1842, the son of Humphrey D Landers (1788-1846).

Humphrey had married twice and had offspring by both marriages. His first wife Sally died in 1831 and his second was Eli's mother - Susan A McDaniel (1807-1880).

Humphrey produced 13 children of whom Eli was the second youngest: 7 of the children being born by his first wife and six by his second – Susan McDaniel.

Humphrey's children with Sally were:

A daughter, probably Mary (1815-1836), who died unmarried

A son, Tyree (1818-1902), who married Louisiana Drake Monroe

A son, probably named Frankie (abt 1820-bef 1830)

A daughter, Frances Davis (1821-1908), who married James Erwin Cruse

A son, James Middleton (1825-1905), who married first Lurany Blunt, second Sarah Rebecca Driver and third Elizabeth Ann McKinney

A daughter, Priscilla A (1829-1885), who married Daniel M Childers

A son, Humphrey Davis (1830-1913), who married Wealthy Fowler.

Humphrey's children with Susan A McDaniel were:

A daughter, Harriet Clementine (1832-1907), who married Daniel Minor

A son, Napoleon Bonaparte (1835-1863), who married Sarah McGinnis

A daughter, Elizabeth Ann (1836-1887), who married first William P Mason and second Samuel A Dyer

A daughter Rebecca Adaline (1840-1914), who married first Morton Hutchins and second Crockett A Rowden

A son, Eli Pinson (1842-1863, who died unmarried

A daughter, Hulda Caroline (1844-1922), who married John D Arnold.

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In August 1861 Eli enlisted in Company H of the 16th Georgia Infantry Regiment and served with that unit until his death in 1863. During his time in the service he wrote regularly to his mother and other family members: 23 times in 1861 – including 18 to his mother; 35 in 1862 – including 29 to his mother and 28 in 1863 – including 25 to his mother. Susan kept all 86 letters together with 14 to and from various other family members and the resulting collection of 100 letters gives us an extraordinarily detailed view: Of the operations of the 16th Georgia Infantry; of daily life both in the ranks and at home and of the tensions and heartbreak of a family at war.

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It is necessary to insert a note about names. Nobody writing a letter to their family uses full names to refer to other family members or friends or acquaintances. Inevitably abbreviations or nicknames are used. Eli was no different. If he referred to his brother Napoleon Bonaparte Landers, Eli used the name that the family used: "Pole". Similarly his sister Hulda Caroline was referred to as "Car". To make interpretation more difficult, Eli had two sisters with the initials "H C": Harriet Clementine and Hulda Caroline. Harriet was usually referred to as "H C" but occasionally it is obvious from the context of a letter that Eli used those initials to refer to Caroline. Eli's brother-in-law William Pinkney Mason was known to family and friends as "Pink" or "W P". Another brother-in-law Morton Hutchins was known as "Moten".

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Eli Pinson Landers: Letters of a Confederate Soldier

1. Aug 11 1861

Gwinnett, GA

E.P. Landers to H.D. Landers¹

This is the 11th day of the month and I must write some more to let you no² that the time has come close to hand when I must close the old cottage door. They are now getting breakfast and when I eat I will start to the Stone Mountain³ to leave there at half past 9 o'clock tonight⁴. If nothing happens I will eat my breakfast in Augusta in the morning and I will mail this letter today at the Mountain. But we have a fine set of boys going. All of our Settlement boys but Bill Miner⁵. Tell Barry Brasell⁶ that he has missed the best chance in the world. My hand and heart trembles so this morning that I can't rite much as I would for the thoughts of leaving Gwinnett and my Mamma and friends in general. I have said nothing about domestic business in my letter nor don't expect to. My time is short here. Breakfast is nearly ready and then I must start. But if I never see you again take care of yourself and I will try to do the same. So no more only truly remain your affectionate brother until Death.

2. Aug 15 1861

(Description of earlier experience in Augusta, GA) Farewell to Susan Landers

I have got a small chance to drop you a few lines to let you know I have landed at Richmond vesterday evening and are well as common and tolerable well satisfied but very much wearied and tired. I am now 7 hundred miles from you all. We ate breakfast in Augusta Monday morning. We got there about sunrise. The citizens of Augusta give us our breakfast and treated us well. There was a young lady give me a flag make of silk ribbon and told me to take it to Virginia but some grand raskal stold it. The people, both men and ladies, give us the praise all the way. They hurahed for Georgia for she carrys the day here at Conier's Station⁷. The tracks was full of ladies and fellas. I fell in love with one of them. She had on a dress like Add's⁸ white one. Mamma, I came all through old S.C. and the woods are not all cleared up yet. I have seed a heap of sites since I left home more than I could write in a week and I went in a heap of dangers. I travelled over a bridge about 25 to 40 feet high which was about 3 miles long⁹. On Monday night we got to Wilmington about midnight. There we changed cars. There was a large river runs through that town which we had to cross in a steamboat as big as our lot. The river was about one and a half miles wide¹⁰. Then the next place was Petersburg¹¹. We stayed at night there in a house made a purpose for soldiers. Atlanta is a baby to this town. It is 22 miles from Richmond. Richmond is a great place. I have seed more people since I left home. Tell William Henry 12 I want to see him so bad. I can look back and can just see my old home and everything about it but I don't know whether I ever will see it again or not. We think that we will be

¹ One of Eli's half-brothers, Humphrey Davis Landers born 1830. Offspring from Eli's father's first marriage to Sarah Oraweiner (1790-1831). Known in the family as "H D".

² Eli routinely uses "no" for "know"

³ A railroad depot on the Georgia Railroad east of Atlanta

⁴ Probably not a scheduled service

⁵ W R Minor born 1838 subsequently joined Co K 36th GA and was killed at Baker's Creek in 1863. He was an older brother of R N Miner – a messmate of Eli's

⁶ George Asberry "Berry" Braswell (Bracewell) born 1840 joined the 12th GA Artillery Battery in Oct 61

⁷ Obscure but possibly Conyers: First stop on the Georgia Railroad east of Stone Mtn

⁸ Eli's sister Rebecca Adaline born 1840, known in the family as "Add"

⁹ Speculatively this may be the trestle over Pee Dee Swamp near Florence SC on the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad

¹⁰ Clearly the Cape Fear River but its width at Wilmington was and is much less than this.

¹¹ Company H seems to have taken the Georgia Railroad to Augusta, then the South Carolina Railroad to Manchester, the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad to Wilmington, the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad to Weldon and the Weldon Railroad to Richmond

¹² Eli's nephew born 1860. Son of Rebecca Adaline and Moten Hutchins (qv)

ordered to Manassas Junction in about 3 weeks. We are camped on Old Scott's Land¹³ but he is afraid to come on it. There has been another fight in Missouri¹⁴. We whipt them thunder. I can set here and look out yonder in the field and see 1000 men drilling one squad, so I must quit again. Write soon. I would like to see you very bad specially you Mamma. Tell the girls to write. I would like to hear from them so I have to send you this letter but I can't come with it so no more at present only truly remaining your affectionate son until Death.

3. Aug 15 1861

Dear Mother

There are about 13,000 men campt at this place. I walked out on the field yesterday evening and saw Colonel Sim's 15 Regiment drill. It was the prettiest sight I ever saw. We was mustered in service this morning. They all looked very serious. We put up our tents yesterday evening and this morning took them down again to move one mile but I reckon we won't go. There are so many folks around me that I can't write. There are hundreds of men out before me drilling. I have saw a heep of my old friends. I saw Burd Martin¹⁶. He has got about well. He will go back to his company next week. Our tents looks like a little town. I reckon there are a thousand tents here. We and Thomases company met a grinning like possums. Bob Elis¹⁷ met us a half mile from camp. I can't write much but I could tell you a heep if I could see you. We got plenty to eat meat and bread and rice and sugar and coffey. We can write what we please. Tell Moten¹⁸ and Pole¹⁹ they don't no nothing. I left them on Sunday night and I reckon I got away fast enough. Mamma and Car²⁰ you may find me some good clothes for this is cold here of a morning. I have got on both of my coats and am not too warm. Tell the girls not to forget me and I want them to write to me and tell Paulina²¹ that the left side of my coat is not ript yet. There are one regiment now leaving here to go to Fare Creek²². The artillery is now saluting them by firing cannons. They have fired five times. I saw the artillery yesterday evening with their guns and cannons. I saw ten cannons in Kinston²³ which was about 10 feet long. Give my love to all my friends and girls. W. P. Mason²⁴ is well, only he has got something in his eye. He said to tell Liz²⁵ he won't write this time. It is no use. He will write before long. Tell Bill Miner that he will miss all the fun if he don't come. Mamma, if you can, send me a flannel pair of drawers and a camp cap. Bill Dyer²⁶ is as big a fool as ever. He is now plaquing a man. There are a heep of calls for money here but I han't spent but 5 cts yet only what I spent on the way here. You can't hear nothing but drums and fifes here hardly. They have got lots of prisoners in Richmond. I am going back in town to see them today. I have not forgot the advice Mamma but there is a heep temptations here. I could write more but it is so confused. Take care of yourselfs and write soon. Direct your letters to Richmond. Va Howell Cobb's

¹³ The Scotts Addition area of Richmond, named after an 800 acre estate north west of the city inherited by Winfield Scott from his father in law in 1818

¹⁴ Wilson's Creek August 10 1861

¹⁵ Semme's ie Paul J Semmes, colonel of the 2nd Georgia and later Brigadier General

¹⁶ unidentified

¹⁷ unidentified

¹⁸ Eli's brother-in-law Morton Hutchins born 1838, married to Eli's sister Rebecca Adaline. Morton was known in the family as "Moten"

¹⁹ Napoleon Bonaparte Landers born 1835, Eli's older brother. Known in the family as "N B" or "Pole"

²⁰ Eli's youngest sister Hulda Caroline born 1844. At the time that the letters were written Eli and Caroline were the only unmarried siblings. Known in the family as "Car". Nb Eli had two sisters with the initials H C, the other being Harriet Clementine (qv)

²¹ Paulina H Couch born 1843, often referred to in the letters as "P H", died in Arkansas 1878 apparently unmarried

²² Conceivably this is the area now known as Englehard NC, on Pamlico Sound which was threatened by attack by Ambrose Burnside

²³ Kinston NC. The 16th were briefly posted in this area

Willard Pinkney "Pink" or "W P" Mason born 1835, Eli's brother in law, married to his sister Elizabeth. Pink served in Co H 16th GA with Eli

²⁵ Eli's sister Elizabeth Ann born 1836, married to W P Mason (qv). She was known in the family as "Liz", "Lizabeth", "Eliza", also probably as "Lissy" and "Betsey Ann"

²⁶ William J Dyer born 1840, Private Co H 16th GA was to outlive Eli only to be killed at the Wilderness on May 6 1864. His brother Sam (qv) was to marry Eli's sister Elizabeth after the war by which time she was a widow

Regiment in care of Captain Richardson and it will come rite here. Tell So Turner²⁷ that we have got away from our families at last! So now I must quit.²⁸

Your son, E P Landers

4. Friday, Aug 18 1861²⁹

Richmond Va

E P Landers to all the Family

Dear Mother and Brothers and Sisters,

This morning after coming back from drilling I am much wearied. I seat myself to tell you that I am in my tent by myself and to tell you that I am well this morning. I promised you that I would write you the truth if I could but it is impossible to do it although I am allowed to write what I please. When I wrote you the first letter I had just got here and had not seed much then but my eyes has been opened since then. We moved from that camparound the next morning after we got here to the old fair grounds. There is about 5 acres in it. They keep guard out all the time and we can't pass out nor in without taking a pass from the Captain. It is hard for a white man to tote a written pass like a Negro! The Gwinnett Negroes is free to the side of us but don't tell Bill Miner. Let him come. There is two just come out of the guardhouse. They was put in there night before last. I met up with twenty two hundred of my enemies yesterday evening but they was prisoners³⁰. They was stout looking fellers. Tell the people back home to stop talking about Little Yankeys for they are Big Devils and do look so mean that I could not help from cussing them! I just shook my fist at them and they did look at us so mean. I saw them come out to go to get water. Some was barefooted and some without a shirt. There was one man stood off and curst them of the meanest devils that he could think of.

I wrote to you that it was cold here and it was then in the morning but it is as hoter day today as I ever experienced. The sweat is now running down my cheeks. We have had enough to eat till last night. We did not have a bite of bread for supper, only what we bought because the quartermaster drawed rations for five days and it give out.

I got permission from my captain and went up in town today. There I saw the greatest place I ever did see! Atlanta is nothing more than a kitchen to the Big house. I will tell you folks that there is no use trying to compare nothing to what I have saw since I left home. I saw Washington's Monument. It was away up a stack of fine rock and he is on the largest horse that I ever saw. Washington is on that horse with his sword in his hand. The horse and man looks as natural as nature itself. Just get out of the way because it looks just like its coming right onto you! It is larger than any man or horse you ever saw³¹. And I shook hands with old Zachary Taylor yesterday evening. He looks just as natural as the man itself. It is about the size of a man. Its made of tombstone. You can see the coat buttons and neck tie, even down to his shoestrings. Well, I can't tell you as plain as it is³².

We are a long ways apart and we are 750 miles apart and I am here trying to tell conditions. We expect to be called tomorrow as soon as we get drilled enough but we are ready to start anytime. They had a fight in Missouri on the 16th³³. We killed and wounded three or four thousand and was still in pursuit of them with a large body of cavalry and was likely to destroy all of them which I am in hopes they will. They had a fight in thirty two miles of us on Wednesday night³⁴. The Yankeys killed and wounded five hundred of our men but we whipt them in the fight. We don't know how many we killed of them but they drove fourteen hundred of those Yankeys up in Richmond to take supper with us. This is the report.

²⁸ One version of this letter ends "I never expect to see you till I can land home in honor for that is the only way that I ever expect to see old Gwinnett. I expect to stand my hand in the Cause as long as I can for I am now sold to Jeff Davis and I expect to serve him till he discharges me in honor or till I die!"

Aug 18 was actually a Sunday. Possibly this is a transcription error and the correct date is August 16

²⁷ unidentified

³⁰ Captured at Mannassas

³¹ The monument still stands outside the Capitol in Richmond

³² Its not plain to this researcher. I can find no mention of such a statue in Richmond

³³ Probably a transcription error for "10th" in which case the reference is to Wilson's Creek or Springfield

³⁴ This may have been a camp rumor. No such engagement seems to have occurred

Mamma I want to see you and Car the worst you ever saw! Its not been long since I saw you but it seems like it has been a month but don't you study about me for if I am called to the field I hope that I will come out unhurt but if I never see old Gwinnett let my post stand. Tell Miss Cody³⁵ that I was glad I have got out of her cotton patch.

There is some of our boys sick but not bad. I would like to see some of the old Gwinnett peach pealings and watermelon rinds. We hardly ever get anything of that kind but we must make out without them. We are here in this place and can't get out. We are like birds in a cage. But Mother don't let none of this trouble you for I am just reconciled to my lot. I have give myself up to Providence and I hope that I will be present both soul and body. Give my best respects and love to all the connections and friends. The drum has beat and I must get in line or else be imprisoned 24 hours in the guardhouse. Thom Sanders³⁶ was absent the other night and he was kept in the guard house a night and a day.

We have got back from drilling and it is raining. I will try to finish this letter. We all done very well in the drill. I want you to write to me as often as you can and pay the postage³⁷ of your letter if you can and write the news in general. You know what I want to hear. Tell all the people to write that will but it is a bad chance for me to write. Tell the girls to write for I would like to hear from all my old friends. Write how the crops look and if it has rained any there or not. We have plenty rain here. It has been half shoe mouth deep round our tent but it is drying up. But there is a likely prospect for more rain. Tell W T Mathews³⁸ to come on with Cain³⁹ if he wants to see Yankeys for there are no sight of them here. Tell him to write. Tell Bill Carel⁴⁰ to write and for Pillard⁴¹. Tell Moten and Pole I have not forgot how they stood round the car by me but I rolled from them fast. Tell them to write to me. W P Mason is complaining with his back. He never went on drill this evening. Tell the folks to not wait for me to write to them. Mamma I have always tried to take care of you but now you must take care of yourself. We have to buy bread for supper or eat beef and rice. Write soon. Tell Mrs Sintha Boles⁴² that I saw her Mack⁴³. I thought of her when I saw the lady. It made me think of my old settlement. Give my respects to all the girls in the settlement and the old women too. Tell them to write some more. This letter closes with thoughts in Gwinnett. Truly remaining your affectionate son and brother until death.

5. Aug 29 1861

Richmond Va

To Susan Landers from E P Landers

Dear Mother,

This morning I take pleasure in writing to you. These lines leave me well hoping that these lines will reach you. Well I have written 3 or 4 letters back home and have never received a line from none of you yet but I will write to you even if I never hear from you. I will make you pay the postage for the chance is bad for me to get money for it is all the consolation I have is to think of my friends in Gwinnett. But I am in a crowd of friends here.

I have just bin up in town to see Joe Waldrup⁴⁴. He has come from Manassas here with the rheumatism. He is staying at a private home and is treated like a child. I visit him every day. Tell old

³⁵ Possibly Mary Cody b 1799 who married Jesse Jacobs

³⁶ Thomas N Sanders born 1843 Private Co H 16th GA. His brother John D also served in the company

³⁷ Postage in the Confederacy wasn't cheap. A ½oz letter to Georgia from Virginia would have cost 10c. Much mail was entrusted to men going on or returning from furlough or to other visitors to the army

³⁸ William Thomas Matthews born 1841 was the son of Francis Matthews and Mary "Polly" McDaniel. Mary may have been Eli's Aunt Polly but this is unproven. It would be a little surprising if Mary were not at least kin of some sort to Eli's mother Susan McDaniel

³⁹ Lt Andrew B Cain born 1835

⁴⁰ William Augustus Carroll born 1842, served in Co H 1st GA (Ramsey's) and survived the war

⁴¹ John Thomas Pittard born 1844

⁴² Cynthia Boles neé Shamblee born 1826

⁴³ Obscure, from the context apparently female

⁴⁴ Presumably connected to the Waldrup family that was prominent in the foundation of Sweetwater Baptist Church but not conclusively identified. This may be Joseph Wesley Waldrop born 1838 and resident in

[?] I saw some of her hair here in Richmond! Joe had it braided. He was in that battle at Manassas but never got hurt only one bullet went through his hat and lightly scalped his head. He is a Methodist preacher and is with his old brethren. He is the same old Joe. We enjoyed ourselves well together and he was so proud to see us. I heard of him and started right out to hunt for him and I found him in a grocery store and nothing would do him but I must drink with him. Him and Bill Carel is in the same house. Bill Cotheren⁴⁵ is in the same house too. There is 100 sick in our regiment but none fatal. Our officers is all sick, that is the Commissioned officers all but Luit Smith⁴⁶ and it keeps him all his time to keep things straightened out. Our Capt is now in town in a private house. I fear that he will not stand it long though.

We may not have to stay here long. We expect to leave here soon to go to Savannah, Georgia but I don't much want to go there but we will leave here before long. If times don't get worse than they are now I expect to come home some time this winter. I can get a furlow for 30 days if the times are not exciting. Joe says when he gets well enough to travel he is going home. He talks like coming by muy old Sacred home.

It is raining here today. The mud is half shoe mouth deep but we all take it finely though it is not like it is at home on wet days. We get plenty to eat and there is 22 of us has throde in and hired a Negro man to cook for us. It cost us 17 and a half cents a week! He is a good cook.

We got a letter from Manasses the other day. John Mathews⁴⁷ and George Mills⁴⁸, Nicholas Shamblee⁴⁹, and George Hudson⁵⁰ was sick with the mumps and the measles. The mumps and measles are in our camp but I have not took them yet. I have been pestered with my throat ever since we been here but I am looking every day when I will take some disease for it is so disagreeable here. Tell the Gwinnett folks that I have not forgotten their respects give me while I was there. It is animating to think of the way the people done at the Mountain that night we started. It was bad to part with friends but God bless them is my prayer if I never see them again. Give my best love to all the connections excepting none. Tell Miss Lizabeth Carrel⁵¹ that I wish her much joy and great success in the remaining part of life. Tell her that the morning I started I had rather a saw her than any other one on earth and have been sorrored ever since and since I heard of the wedding even more so. Tell Miss Paulina Couch that the left side of my coat has not ripped yet⁵².

Send my love up in my old settlement if I can't carry it there myself. This old war is opened up at last and thank God for it! It will be Death or Victory but if to the latter, I want them to either fight it out or quit one. So help me pray for a fight or peace. We see bad times here. The guard is now out in the rain. I was out the other night in the hardest rain and wind. We have the Yankeys here no end to them and I have saw them till I don't like to look at them. If they take many more we will stay here to guard them.

Habersham County. He had kin in Gwinnett County. His military service is unclear. He may have enlisted in the 16^{th} SC in 1861. However the 16^{th} was not mustered into Confederate service until December, after Joe went home with a discharge. He probably later reenlisted in the 16^{th} SC but was awol for much of his time. A pension claim after the war claims service in the 2^{nd} SC Artillery but no record found

⁴⁵ Probably William M Cochran born 1839. Private Co E 7th GA. He was invalided out of the 7th and later reenlisted in the 36th GA.

⁴⁶ Lt W T Smith born 1842 was himself to retire due to ill health on Nov 20 1861 although he shortly reenlisted in the 42nd GA and survived the war

⁴⁷ John F Matthews born 1838, older brother of Eli's messmate William T. Private Co E 7th GA

⁴⁸ George Washington Mills born 1839, Private Co E 7th GA

⁴⁹ William Nicholas Shamblee born 1843 Private Co E 7th GA

⁵⁰ George B Hudson born 1822. From the context it would seem that George was with John Mathews, George Mills and Nicholas Shamblee, all of whom served in Co E 7th GA, however I can find no military record for him in this unit

⁵¹ Elizabeth Carroll born 1839, older sister of Bill (qv). She had married William L Shamblee on Aug 13 61

⁵² This cryptic comment recurs in the correspondence. Was Eli merely referring to some successful darning by Paulina? Was the left side of his coat significant because it covered his heart? We simply don't know, but the reference occurs sufficiently often to suggest that it had some significance to Eli and presumably to Paulina beyond the bald statement of the fact.

Bill DeShong⁵³ is now playing the fiddle. It makes me think of my old settlement almost with tears in my eyes. I want you to write Mamma and write long letters like me. Write like you was talking to me. Write how things stands about home and how my filly is getting on. Take good care of her for she is all I have got. Tell Moten to break the little steers for it may be that I will be with him and if I don't tell him to not forget me nor to write. Mamma if you please make me some good warm winter clothes against winter time but keep them till I send for them. I may not be here but you can get the settlement to join in and box them up and send them by express.

I have just eat my dinner. We had beef dumplings and bread but I would like to have some of your buttermilk and bread and peaches to eat after I get done. Tell N. B. To stay at home for he can't stand it but a little while in such weather as this for there is now about 8 or 10 of our boys sick. We don't muster but about 60 men. Mamma the reason I write so often is because it is through respects Tell all Uncle Ely's⁵⁴ folks that Lige⁵⁵ and Arch⁵⁶ is well and as well satisfied as I am. We got their letter yesterday and it was gratifying to hear from you and to hear that you all was in good spirits. That is the way to be. But be humble. Don't boast.

I wish that I could be with you this evening. I could tell you more than a little but it may be that my presence will never be in your yard anymore. Tell James Garner⁵⁷ that his blanket has done me more good than a little but tell Charles McInnis⁵⁸ to keep his durned old blanket! Give my respects to all and tell Aunt Polly's⁵⁹ folks to write soon. Play with William Henry and Pole⁶⁰ and Charles⁶¹ for me. So goodby to you all. This may be the last letter from Richmond if we have to leave so no more at present only I remain your affectionate son till death. Write soon.

6. Sep 5 1861

Richmond Va

To Susan Landers and Brothers and Sisters

Dear Mother and Friends,

I take pleasure in returning compliments for such a kind letter as I received this morning from you all. It found me well and hearty. I was glad to hear from you. It gives me pleasure for my friends to be kind to send their respects to me. It checks my feelings so to read a letter from any of you that I can't keep from crying to save my life. I cried hearty when I read my Mother's few lines that she wrote. You want me to write the truth but I can only write what I see to be the truth for we can't hear it. Times is bad here and getting worse.

There is so much sickness here. There is about 250 sick in this regiment. They are dying daily. There has been about 15 died since last Sunday morning. Last Thursday there was 6 died. Two died in

⁵³ William H Deshough born 1828, Private Co H 16th GA. Eli's phonetic spelling might well indicate how Bill pronounced his own name

⁵⁴ Eli McDaniel born 1815, Eli's maternal uncle & father of Elijah and Arch (qv) who both served in Co H 16th GA ⁵⁵ Elijah Moore McDaniel born 1837, Eli's cousin. Sergeant Co H 16th GA. Elijah was the son of Susan McDaniel's brother Eli.

⁵⁶ A "Arch" W McDaniel born 1836, E M's brother and Eli's cousin

⁵⁷ It is clear that this is James E Garner born 1820 who himself enlisted in the 42nd GA in April 1862. It is less clear why he donated a blanket to Eli and what the relationship was between the two. The only obvious connection is that James was married to Margaret Lanier whose sister Martha had married William "Billy Red" Garner. Martha and Billy Red had a son John "Samp" Garner (qv) who served in Co H with Eli

⁵⁸ Once again it is clear that this is Charles McKinney born 1819 and entirely unclear why he would offer a blanket to Eli or why Eli should react with such disdain

Not identified but the possibility exists that this is Mary "Polly" McDaniel born 1800, wife of Francis L Matthews and hence mother of William T Matthews, a messmate of Eli's. If she was born in Greeneville County SC then she comes from 1 of only 3 families: one of which is Archibald (mother of Susan and grandfather of Eli) and the others being David and John McDaniel. I can't prove a link between either David or John, on the one hand, and Archibald on the other but a link would not be surprising. On this basis Mary "Polly" may have been Susan's sister and Eli's aunt.

⁶⁰ Napoleon Bonaparte Landers jr born 1861, Eli's nephew, son of N B Landers born 1835. Known in the family as "Pole" or, to distinguish him from his father, "Little Pole"

⁶¹ Charles Mason born 1861, Eli's nephew, son of W P Mason (qv) and Eli's sister Elizabeth Ann Landers (qv)

about 15 minutes between their deaths though I have not bin sick but one day since I left home. The sick is just lying thick through the camps on a little straw with their knapsacks under their heads or something else. It's like Brutus⁶² to see a man die in such places but they can't help theirself for Col Cobb wont allow them to be moved out of camp if he can help it but the most of them gets their friends to go out and get a house for them and then we steal them off to the house. Five or six of our sick ones run away the other evening and went to private houses. We have 42 sick in our company. We are badly wearied waiting on them. Cousin Joe is down with his pains yet. He is at the same place. He can't write but sends his compliments to you all. He has not heard from his folks lately. He wrote to them the other day. W T Smith 63 is in the same house with the measles. You write that you wanted to see me so bad but you are in as greater confusion as I am. You would like to see anybody but Howell Cobb. It would gratify my soul and body just to see you all again. I can just see you all and the old place just as plain as daylight in my imagination. Tell all the girls howdy from me and tell them to write to me for I have not the chance to write much and tell Jane Shamblee⁶⁴ that I saw a letter start to her yesterday from "Underlip" 65. Tell Rachel 66 to write to me and write the fun. Car what was it that made Jane cry so? I have forgot. Tell her that I said God bless her and may the Devil miss her! Tell her I'll see her again.

Give my sincere and best love to all that mentions my name in charity. You wrote that you had help to save your fodder. I want to know how you will get it. Be sure and give my best thanks to all that pretends to help Mother and Car for I never will forget them for it. I want you all to be charitable and live in peace for there is no peace here though we enjoy ourselves as well as we can. That lady that I was telling you about still says that she will attend to me if I get sick. Their names is Hix⁶⁷. They grumble at me if I don't go out to see them every day. They say that I am just like their brother that is in the same cause I am. She says she is coming to Georgia with me when I come home but if they don't come till I do it will be a good while before they come for their is no prospect that I can see if times don't get better. I want you to take care of my mare for I want to take some good long rides when I get home. I want to go to see Jane and Emily⁶⁸. You wanted to know who I was mest with. It's me and Lige and Arch, Dave Cruse⁶⁹, Bob⁷⁰, Jim and Ben⁷¹, Thom Mathews⁷² and Trainum⁷³. Me, Lige, Arch, Dave and Trainum sleep together. We have only got 4 blankets in out tent but we do tolerable well as the weather is yet tolerable warm but when winter comes we will need more cover. There is some ladies in our company now with some nourishments for the sick. They are deeply interested. They think a heap of the Georgia boys! I will send this letter by Charles Making 74 if I can get it written before he starts. Tell William Henry to keep out of the fire or he'll get burnt bad sometime. Tell him he need not to look for me so don't fool the little fellow no more. Tell all the little

⁶² Obscure. Perhaps Eli meant "brutal" or perhaps he meant that he felt betrayed by an unkind Providence "et tu brute"

⁶³ 2nd Lt W T Smith's health didn't fully recover. He resigned due to ill health on Nov 20 61

⁶⁴ Sarah Jane Shamblee born 1845, younger sister of Nicholas

⁶⁵ Unidentified but from the context this is a man from 16th GA and probably from Companies H or I. As a wild guess in might be John H Underwood (qv)
⁶⁶ Rachel Shamblee born 1844, younger sister of Nicholas (qv)

 $^{^{67}}$ In letter #7 they are further identified as Sarah and Katy. One of the two was possibly Sarah Catharine Hix born 1839. The other was probably her mother Catherine (née) Mullen born 1804. In 1869 Sarah Catherine's father lived on Cary near Laurel, only a few hundred yards from the 16th GA's camp in 1861

⁶⁸ Jane is probably Sarah Jane Shamblee (qv). There are a large number of candidates for Emily, even if this is the same person as Emily R in letter #14 and even if "R" is the initial of her surname. The most obvious of many candidates is Emily Ross born 1838.

⁶⁹ William D Cruse born 1844, son of James E Cruse and Frances Davis Landers. Born at least 20 years before Eli, Frances was his half-sister. Thus Eli was Dave's uncle even though the two boys were much the same age.

Robert N Miner born 1842, Private Co H 16th GA. R N was the nephew of Dan Miner, Eli's brother-in-law ⁷¹ Benjamin (born 1843) and James A (born 1843) Matthews were brothers. Both Privates Co H 16th GA

⁷² William T Matthews born 1841. Private Co H 16th GA. William T's father was the brother of Jim and Ben's paternal grandfather. William T's mother was Mary "Polly" McDaniel, probably related to Eli's mother and possibly Eli's Aunt Polly

⁷³ William Lafayette Traynham born 1844. Private Co H 16th GA

⁷⁴ maybe a relative of James A Mackin Co I

grandchildren howda for me and tell Harriet⁷⁵ that we can't get to the Yankeys to whip them and I don't know when I will get home and as for the other word she sent, it is good if I could only perform the work but there is so many temptations to lead me away. It is a place of wickedness. You wanted to know if we had anything to put in our bread. We have salt though we buy soda for put in it. We fry our meat and then take our meat up and then fries the bread in the grease. We have coffey and sugar though I bought my canteen full of syrup. But they are all gone now. You said that you had beans and pie for dinner. I would to God that I could eat with you but you see how it is. Tell all the boys that I am sorry for them. Tell Pole and Sarah⁷⁷ to write to me soon and tell them that Dave⁷⁸ is in the hospital with the measles. He looks bad. Tell Moten and Ad that I want to read another just such a letter as this was. I can't compose my mind enough to write with much satisfaction but you can guess at what I can't write. I don't know yet what sort of clothes I will need for I don't know when or where we will be moved but if we go up in Va I will need a long frock tailed coat to come to my knees or lower for it is bad to stand out in the rain without good clothes. I stood the other night when it was raining hard. I thought of my old feather bed at home. Tell the folks to guit writing about Liz Carrel being married for we are getting tired of hearing of it. Return my compliments to all that sent them to me and tell the girls that is enquiring about me that I would like to see them very well but I can't for it is Dixie Land 19 I am sustaining and I will live or die on the frontiers of Dixie. I just saw enough of the Yankeys to know that it is all the remedy to keep it. Tell Lizabeth howda for me. I can't write to all of you individually but I want you all to consider yourselfs included. Ben Gholston⁸⁰ is our captain. We had our election yesterday⁸¹. Ben Gober⁸² was our candidate. Ben got 54 votes and Gober got 18 votes. I wish I could write as good letters as you all can but I am confused so I hardly know what I am writing so you must all put up with this till next time. Out of so many of you it looks like I could get a letter! Remaining your son and brother truly till Death.

7. Sep 5 1861

Richmond Va

E P Landers to Susan Landers

My dear Mother, Brothers and Sisters

With pleasure I seat myself this morning to write you a few lines which leaves me tolerable well but only tolerable. Saturday night I was taken with a sick stomach. I was in a terrible condition till Sunday evening but I feel much better today. I think I will be well in a few days. I truly hope when these lines comes to hand they will find everyone of you well. I have nothing new to write only we expect to be called to Manasses Junction in a few days. The col has sent his horse off to get him shod this morning to be ready though if we are called to go we can't start but about 7 or 8 hundred men of regiment for there is so many of them sick. I feel mighty weak and bad but if they was to start this evening I would go with them. I received your letter the other day and was glad to hear from you but I sent an answer by McKinney⁸³. Tell me in your next letter what you done with that old blanket you got from him. We drawed some money this morning. We privates drawed 7 dollars and 70 cents and the officers accordingly. We only drawed from the time we left the mountain till the 1st day of September. We won't draw no more till the first day of December. Then we will draw 33 dollars apiece⁸⁴. I am getting very well satisfied here but yesterday while I was so bad off I did wish I was at home on the

 75 Harriet Clementine Landers born 1832, Eli's oldest sister. Married to Daniel Miner (qv). Known in the family as "H C". Nb Eli had two sisters with the initials H C, the other being Hulda Caroline (qv)

⁷⁷ Sarah E McGinnis born 1840, Eli's sister-in-law married to N B Landers

⁷⁹ Made famous by the song, the origin of the name is obscure. It is perhaps a reference to the Mason Dixon Line or it may stem from a popular playground game the object of which was to cross a marked out area known as Dixies Land without being caught

⁸⁰ Ben Gholston born 1835 enlisted as a private and was elected Captain of Co H on Sep 4 61. He resigned (presumably due to ill health) on Sep 23 and by Oct 61 was back in Georgia. Probably the same man later enlisted in the 42nd GA and died in 1864

⁸¹ Confederate Company officers were elected by their men. The system certainly gave rise to some poor officers but, by and large, worked well

⁸³ This may be Charles McGinnis (qv), although it is entirely unclear why he would be visiting

⁷⁶ Bicarbonate of soda

⁷⁸ Dave McGinnis. qv

⁸² Edwin F "Ben" Gober born 1843 died of fever Dec 15 61

⁸⁴ Confederate privates were paid \$11 per month. Union privates received \$13.

bed but I past off the time in my tent the best I could. Silas Cadle of Capt Muthren's company 85 died yesterday with a relapse of the measles. He thought he was about well and worked in the rain and caught cold and died in a few hours. All the boys seems to be anxious to go to the fight. Benjamin Gholston is our captain now. You can just think what you please about Captain Richardson⁸⁶ and his company that he has forsaken, while we think the same. We are looking for our recruits everyday and some brandy and some of our clothes. Mamma don't be grieving about me because we have to leave here. It may be possible that I may go all through and never get a scratch. I want you to try to reconcile yourself to the hand of Providence. I was so glad to hear that the neighbors had not forgotten my absence and to hear that you had friends to assist you in your work. I want you to write as soon as you get this. Probably it may get here before we leave and if it don't it will follow me and write another good long letter like that other one. I was sorry to hear of little Henry getting burnt. I would like to be where I drempt I was last night. I was at home and far from Howell Cobb. I went to see Bill Miner to give my respects to all my friends. Tell them howda for me. I would a liked to bin at old Sweetwater⁸⁷ yesterday but I reckon there was not that many there, only old mean ladies! Tell the little mule and my filly howdy for me. You wanted me to write what we had to cook in. We have a frying pan with a skillet and a camp kettle. So tell all the settlement boys that I would like to see them shoulder their guns with us. We will draw our guns tomorrow but there is many of this regiment that wont be able to use them. But I hope I will be there. There has been about 15 or 20 died in the course of a week. There was 6 died in one day. Dave Cruse has got well. Arch and Lige is well. Jo Waldrup is getting better. He will start home when he gets able to travel. Tell Pole I couldn't keep from laughing but I was sorry too when I heard of our bottom five being washed away. I just know how he cussed Garner's sawmill. I wish I could a bin there to help put it up. Elbert⁸⁸ says he wished me and Pole was at Berth Spring setting in the shade but he can't get his wish. It is mixed uncertainty whether we will ever see that old spring or not. Tell N. B. and Moten to write and not to wait for me to for I have a bad chance. Mamma I want you to try to sell that mule and try to keep my filly and don't let her go to nothing for I may need her one day. I think I can see the Big Officers a fixing to leave here but they would not tell us to save our lives. W T Smith is nearly well. He sends his best respects to you all. I have met up with a heap of my acquaintances and some of my connections here. I saw some boys out of the settlement of Uncle Thom Doster⁸⁹. He and family is well. There is one of Uncle John Landers grandsons⁹⁰ in this regiment. He said they are all doing tolerable well. Uncle John has got the fever but not dangerously bad⁹¹. Mamma I would like to take one good talk with you, I never did want to talk with anybody as bad in my life. But if I don't get to see you in a long time I will have the more to talk about then. Mr and Mrs Shamblee 1 thank them for their cheering words. Return the same for me. The people of Richmond is very kind to us. There is some ladies now in our camp with some nourishment for the sick. They depend on the Georgia boys. Them ladies that you were enquiring about and wanted to know their names. Well their names is Sarah and Katy Hix. They send their respects to you all. They say they now have got a smart sister. I make out like I think there is nobody like them and they think a heap of me! I can hear of them talking about me. Tell all the

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⁸⁵ Silas Cadle (or Kadle or Cader) served in Company I commanded by Captain Hutchins. "Muthren" is presumably a transcription error for Hutchins

⁸⁶ Moses H Richardson born 1830. He resigned Sep 3 61 and in the Spring of 1862 reenlisted in the 42nd GA where he became Asst Surgeon

⁸⁷ Eli's home village, south west of Lawrenceville. Sweetwater Primitive Baptist Church was organized on December 8, 1824 in the Wells school house by Tyre Landers and G. B. Waldrop. The following were charter members: Frances Landers, Clarissa Woodruff, Sara Morgan, Elizabeth Niblet, Precilla Woodruff, Mary Hedrick, Hannah Spradlin, Heziah Lawrence, Sarah Schamblee, Margaret Minchem, Cynthy Barnett, Editha McDaniel, Elley Davis, Nancy Hendrix, John Hendrix, Elizabeth Doneyhoo, James Donehoo, Thomas Mason, Prodence Wells, James Wells, Bodie Waldrop, Benjamin Waldrop, Alsey Waldrop.

⁸⁸ Elbert Daniel born 1840, Corporal Co H 16th GA

⁸⁹ Thomas Jefferson Doster of Jackson County born 1800. Tom Doster's mother was Editha McDaniel, Susan McDaniel's younger sister

⁹⁰ John A Williford born 1843, who served in Co D. John A was the son of Henry Williford and Mahala Ann Landers. John A Landers himself was born 1795 and was a younger brother of Humphrey D Landers who was Fli's father

⁹¹ John may in fact have been on his deathbed. He died early in the 1860s

⁹² Presumably John W Shamblee born 1817 and his wife Ruth Adaline Minor born 1821, the parents of Nicholas, Rachel and Sarah Jane (qv in each case). Alternatively this may be J W's brother George Washington Shamblee (qv) born 1822 and his wife Mary E born 1837

Gwinnett girls howda for me. I would like to see them. Tell them I am in fine spirits but I don't want all of them to marry while I am gone for I must have a Gwinnett girl yet. Tell Harriet that I will try to do what she said for me to do but Jeff Davis is a fine man. Tell the children and Dan93 that I have not forgot them. Car conduct yourself well though I know you will but there is disgustful people here. Tell Lizabeth and the children howda for me. Pink is well. You wanted to know who is in my mess⁹⁴. Arch, Lige, Bob, Thom Mathews, Jim and Ben Traynham⁹⁵, John Walas⁹⁶, and Dave Cruse^{97,98}. Dave McGinnis⁹⁹ has got the measles but is nearly well again. Tell Paulina I would like to hear from her. Ad I want you and Moten to move to the old house before the dead of winter and get shed of old Bill. Sell or swap him for a cow or wagon or something else. Tell Eli Matthews¹⁰⁰ I received his letter and was glad to hear from him but his reports is not true for I went and asked Julius Boen 101 if he was dead and he said not nor old Scott aint dead neither. Old Linkon is not took a prisoner so that report was not true. Tell Eli I will write if I have the chance but if I don't to take this as an answer. Tell him I could tell him a heap if I could see him. Tell Bill Matthews 102 to write Bill Carel 103. Mamma I have always done all I could for you and would yet if I had the chance so I have got more money than I need at this time and for fear I will get it stold or get killed and the Yankeys got it, I will send you a little. Maybe it will do you some good. I'll send it to let you know that out of what I've got you are welcome to some of it. I had rather you would have it than the Yankeys or the rogues. I will send you two dollrs which leaves me with 15 dollars and 50 cents and some in the treasury yet which I think I can make out. It is with pleasure that I do this but I owe you more for your kindness to me than I'll ever be able to pay to the day of death. So I must close my letter hoping that it wont be the last one. I want to hear from you. Write how the Bottom land looks and how that little young peel of corn looks and if you have had any potatoes to eat or not and if the new ground has come out. So no more only tell Sarah and little Pole howda for me. If we had followed our captain we woulda been in Gwinnett now but he was a solger for money. So farewell Dear Mother, Brothers and Sisters.

8. Wednesday, Sep 11 1861

Richmond VA Susan Landers from E.P. Landers

Dear Mother, The recruits 104 landed here this morning. We was all glad to see them but was much gladder to receive our things and that old brandy that was sent. You never saw boys as glad in your life as we

⁹³ Daniel Miner born 1823, Eli's brother-in-law married to Harriet C Landers (qv)

⁹⁴ In the Confederate army rations were issued uncooked and the men cooked for themselves. Communal cooking was obviously much more convenient and groups of men got together in a Mess to do this. There is evidence here of the democratic nature of the army. Arch, Bob, Tom, Jim, Ben, John and Dave were privates, but Lige was a sergeant

⁹⁵ Its tempting to read this as two men named Jim Traynham and Ben Traynham but it seems clear that Eli omitted a comma and that he is referring to three men: Jim (probably Matthews), Ben (probably Matthews)

and William Lafayette Traynham (the only man with this surname in the company)

96 John Franklin Wallis born 1840. Private Co H 16th GA. Later became a Lieutenant and survived the war ⁹⁷ This is the same list as in letter #6 with the addition of John Wallis

⁹⁸ 5 of these men were certainly related (Eli, Arch, Lige, Dave and Bob). The 3 Matthews boys were certainly related to each other and were probably also related to Eli. John Wallis shared a connection with Eli through the Sweetwater Church. Traynham was apparently completely unrelated.

⁹⁹ Dave B J McGinnis' military record consists of a single sheet recording his commutation of rations for the initial journey to Richmond in Aug 61 but, from these letters we know that he died in Goldsboro NC in 1862, probably during or before May. He may well have been the brother of Sarah McGinnis, Napoleon Landers' wife, and hence Eli's brother-in-law. The case is too long to state here.

 $^{^{100}}$ Eli T Matthews born 1843, younger brother of Wm T

 $^{^{101}}$ Julius S Bowring born 1839 Lt Co I 16^{th} GA

 $^{^{102}}$ Probably William Matthews born 1838 whose family was #1392 in the 1860 Gwinnett County census. (Bill Carroll was in family #1456). The other candidate is William Carroll born 1841 but this is Wm T Carroll - Eli's messmate, who was known as Tom not Bill and who was in any event already with Eli in Virginia.

¹⁰³ Eli was obviously unaware that Bill Carrell (Carel) had been discharged from Co K on a surgeon's certificate on Aug 28

¹⁰⁴ Including Miles B Bennett, Andrew B Cain, Alfred J Ginn, George W Givins, Green B Harper, John D Sanders

was. It found us that was sent to all well but it made me think of old Gwinnett mighty strong. We have nothing new since yesterday when I wrote that other letter. We are all as lively as you please. The recruits looks like they was scared. They are not used to our fare. We are getting use to it now. My Respected Mother I went up in town today and got my ambertype 105 taken which I will send to you and I want you to keep this one and give that one you have got to Pole and N B but I want you to keep this one for me and believe it to be the same boy that left you. This one cost 3 dollars but I have got about fifteen dollars yet which I think will do me. Today if I ever did feel good it is now but I would liked to aheard from you in a letter. I have not had time to try my drawers on yet but I will save them until the cold weather. Mamma I want you to keep my picture as long as you live and show it to all the girls. Tell them that it is a Va Ranger. I gave three dollars for it but you won't take 100 dollars for it when you get it! It is just like me now so you can guess how I look. It tells the girls and you all howda for me. It can't talk with you but if I was there I could. Tell Pole to take that old one and keep it until I come home to look at it. Write what you think of it. Look on the cartridge box and you will find my name which was put there with a lead pencil. Arch and Lige has got theres taken too. Both are in one case which cost four dollars. I would send you all something if I could for these great presents which you sent but I can't. I will send this by a man going from here this evening to his Lawrenceville home. I must fix it up in such a hurry that I don't expect you can read it. So keep this picture My Dear Mother for it is just like I am now. I would like to have yours but I can't get it. I couldn't take care of it if I had it. I want to know who made my cap. All the others wants it. I would not take a dollar for it. Give my love to all of the Gwinnett friends. I want to hear of you smiling when you get this. Remember that it is a son of yours who is in the noble cause of his country and who will willingly stay with it till death if needed. So let the Sweetwater girls see it. Tell Henry that it is Eel¹⁰⁶. So farewell dear friends. I know you are my friends. I return my sincere thanks to you for the presents. Farewell dear Mother.

9. Sep 15 1861

Richmond Va

E P Landers to Susan Landers at home

My Dear Mother,

This Sabbath morning I feel like if I can't be with you I will speak to you in the way of lines. These lines leaves me well and truly hoping that they may find you all well too. Mother, I have not much to write only I will have to leave this place next week. We will go to Yorktown about 75 miles from this place. We expect to have to take Fortress Monroe. They say there are forty thousand Yankeys there 107. The companies that has got guns is ordered to march right away but our company has not drawed no guns yet. We will draw them this week. We draw the old fashioned musket 108. Mamma I received them things that you sent to me and was proud of my cap. I have got more clothes than I can tote if we have to march by land but we will go on the steamboat to Yorktown. It is on the seaside. We will get to see the Big Body of water. You stated that you had a good crop of potatoes. I was glad to hear of it. Yesterday I was sick and did not feel like eating what we had to eat and I slipped out and found an old Negro with some good baked potatoes and I gave him 5 cts for one of them and it was so good. It made me think of our patch. I want you to write whether you got that ambrotype I sent you or not. Tell Pole to keep that old one. Mamma I want you to take special care of it tull I come home. Let that be long or short. I would be there today to spend the day with you all but I am here in the hot sun in my tent and the rest of the boys is sweeping the yard. We are badly crowded of a night. There is six to a tent. We are so badly scroughed that we have to get up and go out of doors to turn over but we do the best we can. Tell Moten that I received his brandy with pleasure. Return my thanks for me. I wish you had your bottle again. I was glad to see the old bottle as well as the brandy. Mamma I want you to write how you saved your fodder and how much you have saved. I want you to take care of yourself for I am out of your reach. There has two of the Lawrenceville Co died since we come here. There names was Cadell and Underwood 109. Underwood died yesterday with the measles. I have not been sick only with the diarrhoea but I am looking every day when I will be. Nicholas Shamblee is now

 $^{^{105}}$ The ambrotype was an early photograph. The process was used between about 1855 and 1865

¹⁰⁶ Eel was Eli's nickname within the family
¹⁰⁷ They were wrong. In December 1861 the Union garrison at and around Fortress Monroe was about 11000 men. Their military effectiveness can be seen from the fact that their commander was urgently appealing for 5000 muskets with which to arm his men

¹⁰⁸ In the event the company was equipped with the new Enfield rifle

 $^{^{109}}$ Silas Cader (Kadle) and John H Underwood of Co I

in Richmond sick. He is at a hotel. I have not got the chance to go to see him yet. Asa Wright¹¹⁰ saw him. Bob is going to see him today. Mamma if I go down to Yorktown I will be where there's thousands of Yankeys and if I get into a row with them and they kill me, let it rest on your mind with honor to think that your youngest son died in defense of his country that we might still be a free people. There is many difficulties and trials to undergo here but I prefer it before subjugation. All the boys is getting better in our Co but Lt Gober and he is very bad off. W T Smith looks like a skeleton though he is getting well. Dave Cruse is well. Dave McGinnis is getting well of his ear. Car I have not got time nor room to say nothing to you only be a good girl. Tell all my brothers and sisters and little nieces howda for me and my Connections and friends in general. I receive a letter from old Gwinnett very often but I hear nothing new. I received 3 letters when the recruits came. Arch and Lige and Dave sends their love to you all. Write how all the girls looks and if they have many beaus now. Tell them to wait for us solgers for the Virginia girls don't suit us. So I must close for Pink wants to fill the other side. Mamma I shall never forget that last time I saw you and the rest of my people. Thom Cobb's Legion¹¹¹ has just now past going to Yorktown. Dan Plaster¹¹² and Jim Brockman¹¹³ is in it so I will close. Farewell to you all. So no more, only remains your son as ever

10.Sep 21 1861

Richmond Va

E P Landers to his sister H C Landers

My dear Sister Caroline

I will write you a few lines with much gratification from your short words to me. These lines leaves me well and hearty and trusting that they may find you well. I am in a poor condition for writing this evening but I will write some. I would like to see you the best in the world. I just want to tell you all about the fun. Car I want you to write to me and write about everybody and everything for I love to read your letters. Car if I never see you again let wisdom be your guide and recollect that I am your friend and well wisher. Remember that you had a brother that laid down his life for your honorable rights so let Patriotism encourage your feelings. Live a prudent and moral life for if we go down to Yorktown and get into a difficulty with the Yankeys they may tug me. Car he is just got well of the measles and Bill Dyer says for you to keep his fiddle till he comes home. Car tell Miss Jane that I love her yet. Give my best respects to all the girls and tell them that I have not forgot none of them. Tell Paulina that I look at the left side of my coat and think of her. The sewing has not ripped yet. Give my respects to the Poles and Sarah. Tell Sarah that Dave has been sick nearly ever since he has been here with his head but he is getting well. Give my entire respects to Elizabeth and Harriet and their family. Give my best love to Uncle Eli and family and to James Garner and tell him that I wish I could be there to hope him to dam up his dam again the will have to get it done without me. So I must close for the want of time. Round is the ring that has no end. I send my love to you my friend

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 $^{^{\}rm 110}$ Asa Wright born 1828 was one of a minority of married men in the company

¹¹¹ Cobb's Georgia Legion commanded by Thomas Cobb, Howell Cobb's brother

¹¹² Daniel L Plaster of Buckhead, Fulton County, born 1840, Private Co C Cobb's Legion

¹¹³ James P Brockman born 1823 Private and later Corporal Co C Cobb's Legion

¹¹⁴ Probably the same incident as is referred to in letter #7. Reading between the lines Garner's Mill was upstream of the Landers place and a dam collapse there damaged part of the Landers property

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Charles	-	-	See Mason, Charles (1861)
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Couch, Paulina H	1843	-	3,5,7,10,13,18,32,35,37,39,47,59,69,70,82,94,96
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Richardson, Moses H	1830	Cap H 16	3,5,7
Rick	-	-	94
Rito	-	-	24
Roberts, Jesse	1830	-	75
Roberts, Mr	-	-	See Roberts, Jesse
Ross, Emily (tentative)	1838	-	6,14
Russell, Nathaniel	1838	Priv I 16	41
Rutledge, Dave	-	-	See Rutlidge, David S
Rutledge, Jo	-	-	See Rutlidge, Joseph M
Rutledge, John A	1842	Priv H16	89,
Rutlidge, David S	1843	Priv H16	83
Rutlidge, Joseph M	1841	Priv H16	83
Sallie	-	-	See Norman, Sarah
Sam	-	- D: 2041	Probably see Dyer, Samuel E
Sanders, J M	1833	Priv 20AL	71b
Sanders, John D	1838	Priv H16	14,15
Sanders, Thomas N	1843	Priv H16	4,14,15,17,18,22
Sarah Scott, James R	- 1840	- Priv H16	See Landers, Sarah E 63
Semmes, Paul J	1815	Col 2GA	2
Shamblee, Jane	1010	-	See Shamblee, Sarah Jane
Shamblee, John E	_	_	7,64,66
Shamblee, John W	1817	_	7, 11,33,89,90
Shamblee, Mr	-	-	See Shamblee, John E
Shamblee, Mr George W	1822	-	7,13,49,57,64,65,66,70,71,90,96
Shamblee, Mrs	-	-	see Minor, Ruth Adaline
Shamblee, Nicholas	-	-	See Shamblee, William Nicholas
Shamblee, Rachel	1844	_	6,13
Shamblee, Sarah Jane	1845	-	6,10,16,69
Shamblee, William	1843	Priv E7	5,9,11,13,21,33,45
Nicholas			
Sibby (Siby), Aunt	-	-	see McDaniel, Cebell E
Simmons, William E	1839	Lt I 16	88
Sims, Col	-	-	see Semmes, Paul J
Sis Frances			see Landers, Frances
Sis Francis			See Landers, Frances Davis
Skelton, Captain	1828	Capt C16	44

Smith, Bill			see Smith, W T
Smith, Lindsey J	1827	Priv H16	63
Smith, Linsey (Linsy)	-	-	See Smith, Lindsey J
Smith, Luit	-	-	See Smith, W T
Smith, Mary	1848	-	14,18, 70
Smith, N A	-	-	See Smith, Newton A
Smith, Newton A	1840	Priv H16	82
Smith, W T	1842	Lt H16	5,6,7,9,12,13,15,22,27,28,29,32,33,38,51,66,75
Sq Mc	_	_	see McDaniel, Eli J
Steadman, Enoch	1819	-	78
Stedman, old man	-	_	see Steadman, Enoch
Steve	_	_	38
Subey			See Hopkins, Martha Jane
Teat, Henry Dawson	1816	_	17,97
Teat, Preacher	-	_	see Teat, Henry Dawson
Tect	_	_	See Teat, Henry Dawson
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Thomas, Mr	-	-	See Matthews, Thomas Ezekiel
Tiry			see Landers, Tyree
Tob	-	-	14
Todd, Thomas F	1815	Priv H16	72,73,75
Trainum	-	-	see Traynham, William Lafayette
Traynham, William	1844	Priv H16	6,7
Lafayette			
Turner, Dick	-	-	See Turner, Richard R
Turner, Richard R	1808	-	99
Turner, So	-	-	3
Uncle Ely (Eli)			see McDaniel, Eli
Underlip	-	-	6
Underwood, John H	1825	I 16	9
Vina Ellen	-	-	see Nash, Ellen
W A	-	-	see Wright, Asa
WAW	-	-	see Wright, Asa
W D	-	-	See Cruse, William D
WDC			see Cruse, William D
WH			see McDaniel, Wm H
W H, little			see Hutchins, William Henry
WP			see Mason, Willard Pinkney
W R			see Miner, W R
WT	-	-	See Mason, Willard Pinkney
WT	-	-	see Smith, W T
W T (letter #38)			see Matthews, Wm Thom
WTS	-	-	see Smith, W T
Walas, John	-	-	See Wallis, John Franklin
Waldrup, Joe	-	-	See Waldrup, Joseph Wesley
Waldrup, Joseph Wesley	1838	?	5,6,7,12
Walker, George W	1818	-	89,91
Walker, Mr	-	-	See Walker, George W
Wallace, William R	1834	-	45
Wallis, John Franklin	1840	Priv/Lt	7, 32,45,73,75,95
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Wallis, William	-	-	See Wallace, William R
Wealthy			see Landers, Wealthy
Weathers, Thomas W		Priv H16	83
Will, old			see Cruse, Williamson
Will, young	-	-	see Cruse, William D
William Henry	-	-	See Hutchins, William Henry
William Henry	-	-	see McDaniel, William Henry
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Williamson, Mr & Mrs	-	-	33
Williford, John A	1843	D16	7
Willis	-	-	See Mason, Willis Wyley
Wommack, Bill	-	-	See Wommack, William L
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Wood, Thomas M	1804	Priv H16	69
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