

Henry Hutcheson
July 6th

Colours Mills July

Dear Brother

Yours of the fourth
was duly received this morning &
having just returned from a scouting
party of fifteen we have been out since Saturday
morning we went out eight miles on the
road to Fairfax our house we started
up three pickets & drove them in one
of the boys fired of his piece before the
order was given or else we would have
stood a chance to have taken them his
firing alarmed the rebels & we had to
retreat well we took the woods & struck
the back track crossed over to Springfield
which place is about four miles from
mill we stayed there all night expecting
to capture some of the secession pickets
but we were ~~beat~~ out there for they did
come down the road we were on well
we were getting very hungry towards morning

& commenced to think where we could get
our breakfast - well Lieut. Tishorp &
Sergeant Holloway with three men started
out - to find a house they soon came
back with the good news that they
had found a union house we started
& by the time we got there the lady
of the house had a splendid breakfast
ready for us consisting of corn cake &
fried ham & plenty of pure milk a
luxury to us for it is not often that
we come across such folks around here
after we had eaten a hearty meal
we went over to a select secessionists
house & took a man prisoner who we
took along with us making him
believe that we were taking him
to camp & that he would be sent to
Washington & kept prisoner until he was
exchanged for some that the rebels took
from us he begged very hard to be let off
offered to take the oath or anything else
if we would let him go the Lieut. told

him that if he would lead him to the
place where the rebels horses were pastured
that he would let him go he did not seem
to know where they were kept for a long while
but at last said that he would lead the
way Holloway told him that if he deceived
us that he would shoot him & you know that
he is a man that is not to be fooled with well
he took us to a pasture in the woods about
one mile from Springfield & we found ten
splendid horses which we took to camp
with us you would have laughed to have
seen your humble servant riding bare
backed without anything but the strap of my
gun for a bridle some of the men borrowed
bridles from the lady whom I spoke of before
there were only three of them & they were
appropriated by our officers I am afraid
that I shall feel the effects of my ride for
two or three days yet it is very lively here
now for we expect to move forward in a
day or two but - I will not believe it -
until we get orders to pack up the rebels

getting so that they are more careful
how they approach our pickets now
for they have found that our boys
can shoot better out to long distance than
they can there was an alarm at the mill
last night but it turned out to be
nothing but one of the sentinels taking
a bush for a man & firing at it some
times the sentinell gets a closering & on
waking he imagines that he sees a man
& so is the cause of keeping up the men
for half the night there is a great deal
of dissatisfaction here on account of our not
being paid yet they keep telling the men
that they will pay off tomorrow so that
they have got sick of hearing the word
pay used they have not received more
than five dollars since they have been
out here there is ten dollars coming
to us from the state & twenty two
from the government but it is a queer
fact that we can not get a cent
from either if this Regt had been used
as it had ought to have been there is
no doubt but there would have been

their money they could get all those little
things but now they are very discontented
& would not fight one half as well as they
would if they were treated as they ought
to be Capt Sum sends his best respects
Largento Hallaway Robinson Harper
all wish to be remembered to you
give my love to Sisters & Brothers &
tell them that if nothing happens
I will be home in five weeks that
is they don't take me to Richmond
to spend the summer months but I
don't think such a thing will happen
we have to stand guard every night
so that we have to get all the sleep that
we can in the day time remember me
to all of my friends

Yours & Co
Henry

in your last you wanted me to give
you respects to Doc Brodie but we don't
think much of the Doc here for the boys
think that he cares more for getting
secession funds than he does about
taking care of the sick every one that
goes to him for medicine gets the same
thing that is given only the other day
it was reported by the boys in the hospital
that he told the Col that he had not
better pay the men until their time
was out for fear that they would eat
something that would make them
sick so we have not got paid yet
& do not know when we will get ^{it} some
of the boys are really in need of their
money if it had not been for that five
that you send me I would have been
flat on my back for some of our men
have been sick from no other cause than
not getting such things as milk & butter
once in a while for a change if they had