

April the 20<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear John

It has been so long since I received a letter from you that I am at a loss where to direct one to you but hoping you are in the land of the living and with some of your brothers. I have concluded to drop you a short epistle. Last Saturday I witnessed the death of Arrene our old cook, she has been sick all the time since you left, has suffered a great deal but her afflictions ere in mercy sent and she has gone home to heaven, she would sing Jesus they all to heaven is gone and put heaven I long for thee until her voice failed and she ----

(Torn Off)

(other side)

-----they will not have much at a time.

Col Henery's battalion has been here for some time eating up the country together with their robing hen nest and everything they can lay their hands on. Col. Thomas was here last Friday on his way to make Capt. Parker's men behave themselves up the river. They are as bad as Tories taking horses and anything they want. I had this from one of his own men young Rice of Haywood he said he wanted to join another company. Mr. Thomas thinks his command will all be sent home to defend the Smokey Mountains as he things it highly -----

(Torn Off)