Mill Dale Mis. prince 27 1/868 I wrote a shut several days ago but learning that any letters only went as far as Headquarters I thought it no use to mail if they could not go East, But the day we are digging rifle hits again & I want something to busy myself about when restore quess I must write a shute Implose no mail has left her since me landed no you are probable - by as anciously waiting to hear from me as I am franche you Weare we pecting to go back into By in a shart time. That thekeling must fall ovon. He hear at all time day & night the boriging of theold morters the long beauty sumbling of the big grans & light artilery mingled with the closhing of nurhelry, How house the rebels can sloud such a

I wrote a sheet several days ago but learning that our letters only went as far as Headquarters I though it no use to write if they could not go East. But to-day we are digging rifle pits again & I want something to busy myself about when resting I guess I must write a sheets I suppose no mail has left here since we landed so you are probably as anxiously waiting to hear from me as I am from you We are expecting to go back into Ky. in a short time. For Vicksburg must fall soon. We hear at all times day & night the banging of the old morters the long heavy rumbling of the big guns & light artilery mingled with the clashing of musketry. How long the rebels can stand such a

founded a few hears for oned sow part it ours to me it can't be long We hear that Growt blew up a fast night before last and that he so slowly and enrely underwining them. We see the flight of the shall as they appear to move very slowly thron The air Monally jest at dark there is heavy founding & we set quite a desplay of pereworks Briggs went over to h about a week egt he said our men were so wear to the reblo that we threw shell sonto their works by hand after lighting the fuse, the ribels throwing there into our trenches by the same means. Thear Sin Penderton wanted to have the privilage of burying the dead horses & miles in the city, But Sen Brant has given them, all the privileges he wer will. It is harrible to think of the suffering amon which those

PAGE 2

pounding remains to be seen, but it seems to me it can't be long

We hear that Grant blew up a fort night before last and that he is slowly but surely undermining them. We see the flight of the shells as they appear to move very slowly through the air Usually just a dart there is heavy pounding & we see quite a display of fireworks Briggs went over to V. about a week ago he said our men were so near to the rebels that we threw shells into their works by hand after lighting the fuse, the rebels throwing them into our trenches by the same means. I hear Gen Pemberton wanted to have the privilage of burying the dead horses & mules it the city. But Gen Grant has given them all the privilages he ever will. It is horrible to think of the suffering which those

who are permed up in that fated city, But the more they moffer the overer they muest ourrender The women & shildren had a shored to leave but Pernherton was agoing to protect the women a chiefdren how I don't know it strikes that the shell from Granto morters are but four protection. Oh! how we are longing for the fall of the tisburg That will be the first great complets victory our army sute won then we hope to go back into By. We don't like this country men well the weather is tirrible hat it so just as hot one day as another to compare it with NE weather it is just about the same as the hollest days in July lest or uniform is the heat that we don't mind it half so muchas you do the hollest days besides the nights are much water we should

PAGE 3

who are those who are pinned up in that fated city. But the more they suffer the sooner they must surrender The women & children had a chance to leave but Pemberton was agoing to protect the women & children how I don't know it strikes that the shells from Grants morters are but poor protection. Ah! How we are longing for the fall of Vicksburg That will be the first great complete victory our army ever won then we hope to go back into Ky. We don't like this country very well the weather is terrible hot it is just as hot one day as another to compare it with NE weather it is just about the same as the hottest days in July but or uniform is the heat that we don't mind it half as much as you do the hottest days besides the nights are much cooler we should

be very chilly without a blanket over no. The worst feature in this country is the immunerable insecto x reptiles one can not ocat himself on the grand a moment without being covered with anto bugo worms or some harrible looking insect. Block X rattle suntes are very frequently seen of large dimensions! We are patiently waiting waiting for a muil meet to the fall of Nicholary nothingy would cause such fry in this army so a large will go far with a from as this letter it The Hillsburo bays are all well though & hearty, This dimste seems & agree with us quite well before this letter reaches you people will be haying but probably we wish I would hear from pames I show t write to him for fear he may be hetters I asked him to send you

PAGE 4

be very chilly without a blanket over us. The worst feature in this country is the innumerable insects & reptiles one can not seat himself on the ground a moment without being covered with ants bugs worms or some horrible looking insect. Black & rattle snakes are very frequently seen of huge dimensions. We are patiently waiting waiting [sic] for a mail next to the fall of Vicksburg nothing would cause such a joy in this army as a large mail. I don't know as this letter will go for weeks yet I will send it.

The Hillsboro boys are all well tough & hearty. This climate seems to agree with us quite well before this letter reaches you people will be haying. but probably we shall be eating green corn. I wish I would hear from James I shan't write to him for fear he may be in H. I hope you will get the three letters I asked him to send you

I send a few beans the small ones are called Miss beans grow in Miss Please plant