

Lookout Valley Tenn  
March 13th 64

Sister

Yesterday yours of the 25 ult came to hand. I was sensible the conscript law would be finally fixed so as to catch Ed, but I do not see that he need find fault if he can get out from the draft by paying \$10. and his share of the tax. I know it seems hard to pay so much but even if he had to pay the three hundred, I would think him lucky rather than to be obliged to come to the field as a conscript. Knowing just what I do know, if I was a free man, and was liable for the or to the draft, and could not get off no other way I would enlist again. never would I come as a conscript, to be fooled at by the old soldiers, and called "conies" and have to put up with officers insolence that they dare not show to us now, is more than Ed or I could bear. I know it should not be so, but no one that has not seen the oppression put upon drafted men will believe it. they are drilled to excess and told around awfully they are not as much thought of or respected as the colored troops. Ed if you can escape coming as a soldier by paying any sum, do it you will regret the day you do it not. If I could get what the Government is owing me I could send you a handsome sum over a hundred dollars. the regiment was paid a week before I got here. it pains me to think how little I have helped you for the last eighteen months. it will be good when it does come. I can no how think of Ed being a soldier it harrows my mind, for I know he never could stand soldier's fare John Watkins was mistaken about my going to the regiment it is not 4 weeks yet since I left Annapolis.

I wrote you that I had strained my knee. I have been excused from duty on account of it, but it does not trouble me much. I am able to go around about as well though it had never happened. I shall go on duty tomorrow

What part of the summer's campaign Joe Hooker is to take is hard to surmise. Look out for Longstreet either in North or South Carolina.

Give my respects to \_\_\_\_\_. The weather is very nice. eat some warm sugar for me and I'll soldier a little for you

D S Jones