

Hallstenn Va Aug 7th 1864

Dear Mother

I have just recd your letter of last sunday this morning. I wrote you last Sunday from Near Harpers Ferry. Since then we have had some travel. We marched down to Monocacy Junction & staid there two days & then turned around & marched back up here. We are now about 6 miles up the Shenandoah Vally from Harpers Ferry & I Expect we shall keep on up the vally as far as Winchister. Genl Grant is here & it is reported that Hooker is here but I do not think it is so. There is not much to write about for all we are doing is just travelling around to see the country. It seems that Genl Early is up here with about 20,000 men & is doing just as he pleases with us Every time he moves. Our people magnify his force as high as 50,000 men. We have got men enough here to Eat up the whole of Earlys command if our General only had the courage to do it, but that they have not got & consequently they keep us on the trot all the time, at the rate of from 15 to 25 miles per day. I do not have marching to do so I shall not find much fault but if I had to go on foot I should say more.

Cant write any more now for the mail is going

Your Affectionate Son  
CJ Hardaway