

Harrison Landing VA August 5 1862

Dear Mother

I have delayed writing three or four days because it has been so hot that a person could not stir without having perspiration roll off from them like rain but it is a little cooler this morning and looks like rain. There has been very heavy firing up the river all the morning. I think the Gun boats must be having a little turn. We have just orders to be ready to march at a moments notice with two days rations so I guess we have got something to do, but I hope no more fighting for the present. We had a nice little concert the other night. About one oclock at night the rebels came down on the opposite bank of the river with two or three light batteries and opened them on us and the shipping but did not do much damage. They had it all their own way for a few minutes but when our batteries opened on them they had to quit and give it up as a bad job. One or two little sollid shot came through the woods where we are encamped but did no harm to anyboddy. William Angell died last Wednesday and we burried him the next day with all the honors due a soldier. We have not got our box yet but expect to get it to day if we do not have to march The shirts and other things that you sent have not got here yet. I cant see why they dont come if they were directed to Washington that accounts for it and they will not be here in some time probably. Since pay day I have been trying my hand at cooking I have come to the conclusion that I can make just as good a short cake pancake or dough nuts as any other man. I would like to have you try some of my cakes I think you would pronounce them as good as any you ever saw. There is a splendid band right next to us that plays night and morning and that is about the only thing there is to keep a fellow alive. Tell Gust I will answer his letter pretty soon I can not think of anything more to write at present I guess we shall have to march pretty quick. Remember me to all

Your Aff Son

CJ Hardaway

Please send some stamps I am all out and cant get any here