

Washington February 16th 1862

Dear Mother

I have not had any answer to my last letter yet but will write just a little because I have got in the habit of writing every Sunday. As you are the only correspondent that I have I shall try to be prompt and shall expect you to be the same if you can. We are getting some very good news from Burnside's Expedition and from Kentucky our boys begin to think that we shall not have much to do if we do not get our rifles pretty quick. I hope we shall get a chance to see one fight at least, for I should hate to go home and say that I had not seen a rebel. We are pretty confident however that we shall have fighting enough to do if we get our gun before the war is over. The weather has been beautiful for the last week and we have been kept very busy with drilling and inspections. We are to be reviewed by General McLellan sometime next week so we are "putting" in to make as good a show as possible. George Beardslee was over here the other day and helped eat some of your butter and black berries, he said the berries made him think he was pretty near his Miss Lill again. One of the boys in our tent had a large cheese sent him from Herkimer county so we are living now on the fat of the land with that and the butter. The men that Cleveland enlisted in New Berlin are encamped about a mile from us and have all been over to our camp today. Cleveland has left that regiment and gone as chaplain to the 44th NY. I think he will do better there than he would as a Lieut. Harrington and myself will send our clothes home some time this week. I have had some photographs taken and will send them the next time I write as they are not finished yet. I hope you will find time to write before next Sunday for it is rather pleasant to get a letter once a week.

Your aff Son

CJH