

Washington February 2d 1862

Dear Mother

It is once more Sunday with everybuddy but Soldiers with them there is no diffirence in the days with exception of having a little more to do Sunday than any other day in the week. First comes a regimental inspection after that the companys are drawn up in line in front of the tents for inspection of knapsacks blankets tents etc, everything has to be just so, if things are not put up right the boys have to take a blowing up. I have escaped blowing so far as my bump of order is rather prominent You wish to know if I go to Church any. I have not been to Church since I have been here becaus I have not had a chance with the exception of going to hear Cheever in the house of representatives. I suppose by the way you write that you hear a great deal about the Sharp Shooters. There is a great deal in the papers about them. Some of it is true but the great part is what is commonly called lies the Colonel has persevered he has got an order for the Sharps Rifles and we shall get them about the first of March and that will be as soon as we shall want them. Since we have found out that we are to wait here we have laid out twenty five dollars in fixing up our tent, it is built up about six feet with boards and banked up with dirt and then the tent is put right on top so that it makes a verry nice house. We have built bunks and have got good straw beds and plenty of blankets so we can sleep just as well as though we were at home. We have a man that does cooking for the whole company it is all done at the kitchen so all we have to do is eat and grow fat Since pay day we have dry toast butter and coffee every morning for breakfast. I have not seen Ed in some time but hear that he is getting along first rate and will be up in a few days. I saw Charley Beardslee the other day his is looking finely I think he is doing a great deal better than he used to at home. I went through the Smithsonian Institute last Thursday and saw a great many curious things among the best was a piece of meteoric matter that was found in Mexico weight 232lbs I think if that had hit a man on the head when it fell he would have heard something drop. The next time that I go to town I shall go through the Navy Yard I suppose that there is as much to be seen there as any other place in town. Washington of itself is the most miserable town that I every saw. If the public buildings were not here it would not amount to any more than Peck Town. Your letters are just about right, you might make them a little longer if you have time. Tell Summers that I will answer his letter pretty soon I sent home a paper the other day that I got from Fred Barnum

Your aff Son

C J H