

Washington January 26th 1862

Dear Mother,

I received your letter on Friday and suppose that you have received mine with the five dollars before this time I hope I shall be able to send twenty dollars or more the next pay day. The article you saw in the Herald was written by one of the Sharp Shooters but it will not do to believe more than half of it. As a proof of it there were 1400 out on inspection this morning. There is some of the companys that have been here five or six months without arms and of course do not feel verry contented we shall probably get our rifles within ten days and if we do everything will be all right. There are a great many things going on that look as though we should be ordered off before a great while. The weather has been verry bad for the last week it has rained nearly every day so that we could not drill, but the Captain has kept me bussy writing for him most of the time so that I could not get much time to play. I got off one day and went down to see Ed. I think he is getting along nicely since he went to the patent office guess he will get well if nothing happens to him. One of our boys died Friday one of the best that we had in the Company. Alfred Aldrich is verry sick and has made up his mind to die any way and I guess he will, he has set the time once or twice but did not make it out he is a regular old granny and dont know much and of course cant get along as well as some others, that know more. I saw General McLellan and staff the other day in full uniform they made quite a nice show for a young like me. Last night We could see signal lights and rockets going up in every direction but could not tell what they meant as they dont tell every boddy what they are doing the general opinion here is that there will be something done here that will count How does Foote get along with his Unadilla regiment has he got it full yet? I think if I had waited for him I should had a nice time of it and should not been away from them by this time. I have been here long enough now so that I feel perfectly at home can lay down and sleep as well as though I was at home in my own bed. I had a very bad cough the first two weeks that I was here. I have used a bottle of Ayers Cherry Pectoral and a box of Browns Bronchial Troches and am now perfectly free from a cough even the old cough that I have had two or three years is all gone and I feel like a lark.

I have written all that I can think of and as it is time for dress Parade I shall have to stop. I wish you was here to see the parade for it is a fine sight. I wish when you write again you would tell me how to wash flannel good.

Your aff Son
C J H