

Knoxville, Md. July 17th 1863

Dear Mother,

I don't know but you will think that I have forgotten you entirely but it is not so. We have been on the tramp all the time for the last Six weeks. I wrote to you just after the battle of Gettysburg and have not had time to write since or else I have not felt like it. (I guess that's the reason.) I see that Charley Buck writes pretty often and he probably gives all the news. We expected to have a verry large sized mess last week but for some reason or other it did not come off, and the Johnnies concluded to get up and dust. We laid in position for making or receiving an attack for four days. I think that Genl. Mead did well in not making an attack on them in the position that they had. He would have got served worse than he served Lee at Gettysburg.

Your Affectionate Son
Cyrus J. Hardaway