

Washington D.C. July 24th 1864

Dear Mother

It is a long time since I have had a chance to write to you. After writing on board the transport we took on coal & started for Washington. When we arrived in the city every thing was in confusion. I should have written a line then but there was no chance to send any mail. The next morning after our arrival we started on the march for Virginia. We marched up through Maryland & crossed the Potomac at Whites Ford, went to Leesburg & from there over to Snickers Gap where we staid two days. I was at the Gap last year on July 18th & it was the same day when I was there this time. We have had a verry hard tramp this time & not much to eat. There is transports here waiting to take us down to Petersburg & I suppose we shall go in a day or two. Foote has not come along with us & he wont come up here if he can help it & I dont blame him any. You keep asking about my shirts & Aunt Lucy. I have got the shirts & they are all dirty. Aunt Lucy was left in New Orleans. But I wish I had her with me. I cant get time to write any more now. Will try & write again before we leave Washington. I got your letter of the 17th this morning. It seems queer to get letters so quick after they are mailed. I expect I must have lost some mail on the Electric Spark when she was captured by the Florida. Please remember me to all the people

Your Affectionate Son  
CJ Hardaway