

Seven Miles from Richmond June 4 1862

Dear Mother

I think I must be your debtor for I have had two letters from you since I have written one to you. It is just two months to day that we started from Hampton for Richmond I thot then that we should get through in about three weeks, but here it is two months and we have only traveled Eighty Eight Miles rather slow I think but I guess it is about as fast as we can go and keep every thing up in shape. A person that had never seen such an army as this moove would suppose that they could get along faster than they do, but let them see the amount of work that is done and the Grub that is hauled up and they would wonder how the army could get along at all. We have been in this camp ten days Our Regiment went out and got into a mess up at Hanover. I happened to be on guard in camp that day and did not go with the rest but I heard all the firing. We have had two battles close by since one Saturday and one Sunday, I was on picket Sunday within two miles of the fight you can not imagine what a horrible noise it makes a person would think to hear musketry that No man could live to get out. We have been called out a number of times to go and fight but have not been yet and I hope I should not be obliged to go at all. Genl McLellan tells us there is only this battle to fight and that is the end of it. I hope it is So for I have seen enough of war I would not give two cents to see any more but I would give considerable more than that if I was out of it. I am in for it now and shall stick to it and make believe that I like it as long as anyboddy does. We are having a great deal of rain here now it rains nearly every day and when it does not rain it is hot enough to roast a nigger There was a thunder shower here the other day such as I never heard before I thought I had heard thunder at home but I have come to the conclusion that it don't thunder at all up there While I was out on picket the other day I found some Strawberries peas and cherries if I had any way of getting some berries to you I would send some but I guess they would spoil before I could get them to you. There is some prospect of getting our pay just as soon as I get any I will send you some more money I can not think of any thing more to write at present. Give my love to all.

Your Aff Son

CJH