

Washington March 3rd 1862

Dear Mother

I received your letter to night and it made me feel "Kind er good" as it always does to hear from home. There is nothing going on here and I hardly know what to write we do not get much news since the government has come down on the papers. We heard to day that Gen Banks had crossed the river at Harpers Ferry all safe and sound and there will probably be no battle then right away. There was rumors afloat last week that there was a big fight there and that we should have to go up there but that is all blown over now. We have not got our rifles yet and begin to think that somebody has lied to us, but I think that if Uncle Sam chooses to keep us laying here idle it is his bussiness and not ours I for one shall not find any fault I think that I am full as safe here as I should be when the balls are flying around promiscuously I think if we ever do get our rifles though before the war is over that we shall have hot work to do if there is any done at all. Harrington and myself have got our old clothse bundled up and will start them off as soon as we can get them down to the depot they will be sent to Mr Harrington and he will get them from Utica. you will have to pay my share of the charges out of my bank Buchanan and Chase have got some things in so it will not be much for each one. It has been raining all day and is raining yet and it makes it rather dull here in camp I cant think of anything more to say and shall have to close up if I hear of anything during the week that is worth writing about I will write again. Your aff Son CJH