

Near Fredericksburg May 31st 1863

Dear Mother

I received your letter Also the one from Sommers. Sommers write a verry good letter and I hope he will write oftener after this. He says he should like to go to West Point or the Naval School but I am afraid that he does not like to study well enough to go to either of those places he would find it rather hard work. But if he could go there and go through with it, it would be a fine thing for him. I have not heard from N.O. yet. I can't immagine why I don't get a letter from them, but I think it will come around all right by and by. Genl Grant has got a big job on his hands at Vicksburg and I am afraid that he will come out same as McClellan did at Richmond a year ago now. It is just a year ago to day that the battle of Fair Oaks was fought.

The wind has been blowing a perfect hurricane for the last three days and the air is filled with sand it piles up in drifts like snow it is not verry pleasant here now I assure you. We have not had any rain in three weeks and every thing is dried up. The boys are all out on picket except Chas Buck and myself. The next time I write I hope I shall have something to write about.

Please remember me to all the good people at home

Your Affectionate Son

Cyrus J Hardaway