

Near Vermillion La November 2 1863

Dear Mother

I got your lecture and Sommers letter one day this week. I like to get letters verry well but I don't like the other part, for I have the blues often enough when every thing goes all right. We have turned about & taken the back track since I wrote you last. I wrote you that I thought the army could not be supplied the way we were going & I think that is the reason why we have turned around. We have not had any fighting to amount to any thing yet. I saw a report in the papers that Franklins Corps got whipped at Brashear City. It is no such thing. There was no rebels within 15 miles of them when we got there and they have kept nearly that distance ahead of us all the way up. We have been something over a hundred miles up in this country. The report is now that we are going to take a different route & strike off across the country for Texas but we can't tell untill we get started. I am glad that you are going to send Sommers off to school for I think it will do him good to get away from New Berlin. I have been pretty bussy for the last two weeks making my monthly reports, but I am getting pretty well up with them now. I have been out all day foraging for corn. I had charge of 50 Waggons & loaded them all at one place. After I got them loaded & had given a note for them the man asked me in to take dinner with him. He had a pretty wife & she had a verry pretty sister. They were good strong rebels, but verry agreeable for all that & give me a first rate dinner. I think that I should like to marry into that family if things were quiet down here, but as it is now I guess I wont. I see hundreds of acres of cotton every day going to ruin. They can not pick it for the niggers have all left "done gone." We are stopping now in General Montin's plantation & everything is going to ruin as fast as possible. I guess I won't write any more now. I will make it up next time if I have any thing to write about.

Your Affectionate Son
CJ Hardaway