

Martinsburg Va Oct 30th 1864

Dear Mother

I have not had a letter from you in more than two weeks but I do not think that it is any fault of yours for I have not been near the regiment for nearly two weeks & of course all the mail goes up there. I have made application to be relieved from my present duties & be returned to the regt but I do not know whether it will be done or not. I suppose you have heard all the particulars of the late defeat & victory in the valley so it will not be necessary for me to say anything about it, but it has cost us some good men. In my last letter I wrote you that Thurber was dangerously wounded. The poor fellow died last Tuesday the 25th. I had the body embalmed & brot down here. But the Express Co will not forward it untill the charges are paid & I have not the money to pay the charges, but however I thin I can get it off within a day or two.

There is not much news here now only that the trains have all moved back here. I think preparatory for the army to come back as far as Winchester if not farther. I hope we shall not have to stay in this country this winter for it is as cold as it is in N. York. You wrote that Gaskill could not make the kind of boots that I sent for if that is the case I do not want him to make any. If you can put my old beaver overcoat & a good cotton comforter into a box & send it to me I wish you would do it for the nights are awful cold. Direct the box to Lt CJ Hardaway Martinsburg Va care of Lieut Alex Goslin A A G M 1st Div 19th A C & please write when you send the box or just before so that I can look out for it. When we get settled down in winter quarters I shall expect Gust down here to see me & he must make up his mind to do it too. There is a chance for me to get out of the service at the expiration of my old Enlistment if I choose to but I do not think I will do it unless I can see a good chance for business & that is not very likely just now. My old term expires Nov 21st & that is close by. Cant write any more at present hope to hear from you soon

Your Affectionate Son
CJ Hardaway