Near Vermillian La Oct 9th, 1863

I have just got your letter of the 20th. I am glad to hear that Nelson is alive and doing well. We are marching along a little every day and I believe that they expect to have a little fight before many days. 8 Oclock PM. We have been on the road all day and have traveled about five miles. About now the advance came up with the enemy and had quite a lively cannonade and drove them off, and we now occupy the ground that the rebs did this noon. Now that they have left this position I do not think they will make a stand again very soon. Genl Banks came up & joined us to day. The troops all respect him but did not like Franklin. The mail closes in about five minutes and I shall have to quit writing. I hope you can read this. If you can you can best me.

Your Affectionate Son CJ Hardaway

Please direct to Lt CJ Hardaway 114 N.Y.V. New Orleans. La