

Arlington Heights September 16th 1862

Brother Gust

Having nothing to do and a good deal of time to do it in I think I can spare time enough to write a few lines to you. The regiment has been gone from here since last Friday. I don't know where the devil they are and don't care much. I should not wonder if they got in a mess before they get back if they do I am glad that I am not with them. I have seen all the snipers that I care for at present. We had pretty gay times at the battle of Bull Run (No. 2). I would like to have had you there to take some of the chances with us just for the fun of the thing providing you could have come out all right the same as I did. I could not tell you in three weeks so that you could appreciate the thing a person wants to go through with it once before he can have any idea of it at all and then he can not make it seem like reality. We lost our Lieut and his brother out of our company. The Lieut's brother was shot within two feet of me. He was right by my side. I got the box that has been on the way so long last Thursday night. Everything was in good order. The bottle of gin in particular. Rast Root is in Fort Corcoran near where I am staying I see him every day and have some pleasant chats with him. He says he would like to see you down here. I think you had better come down and make a visit. Genl McClellan has got hold of the strings again and I see by the papers that he has got the rebs "to kiting" again. He don't make quite so much blow as some of the other Genls do but I think he understands "His Biz" full as well as any of them. Have you married yet or cut off your big toe or any thing of that kind if you have just let me know. I wish you and Harrington would get together and write me a good long letter giving me all the news. What is the number of the regiment that Foote is in and what is the letter of his company? Jim Campbell of Cooperstown was taken prisoner in the late battle and has been paroled. Let me hear from you soon. Remember me to Chas Buck when you see him. That's all.

Yours &c

Cyrus J. Hardaway

per R.R.R.