

Yorktown July 26th 1861

Dear Ma,

As Mr. Happy is about to start for home, I have concluded to write you a short note which I must do in a short time. Kitt and myself are both very well. I have a cold which troubles me some. Kitt, Jud and myself have all been standing on guard today. I guess you have heard concerning our brilliant victory at Manassas. I wish I could have been in that fight, but we may have something to do on this peninsula yet. Several thousand men have left Yorktown, and gone down towards Hampton. I expect we would have gone if there had not been so much sickness in our company. A great many of our men are sick with measles. I hope we will be sent down there where we can have a fight. The Zouaves have mostly all gone down there. It would not surprise me if Magruder did attack there down about Hampton. I believe all of your acquaintances are now well. Lieut Fred is now strutting about for he has just received his pay. Jud is now dunning him for some he owes him. I have had my uniform cut out by a taylor here and he is making it for us. I have not heard where the Cedar Town company is stationed. Our captain is now sick since he arrived. I have hiring my washing. None in our company do their own washing. We have very little time for washing.

I [hear] you received the letter in which I told you what I would need for winter. I will want an Indian Rubber raincoat, some gloves and a common coat. I want some twine strings. When you have a chance I wish you would send us some butter and other things. Fred received a letter from Aunt Harriet saying that Grandpa was going to start for here in a few days. We will look for him next week some time.

Mr. Happy would have started home before but Bob has been having the Measels. It would not surprise me at all if we should be ordered down about Hampton. When we received the news about the Manassa fight you never heard such hollowing. And all the men went to their Colonels tents and had speeches from them. I must hurry for I will have to go on guard directly.

Please send those things which I will need when you can.

I will write again day after tomorrow.

Give my love to Pa and the children and negroes and all the neighbors.

You must write often.

I have not received a letter since I have been here.

Excuse this note.

I am as ever your obedient son,

Henry Bunn

Yorktown Va.