

1862

Near Richmond June 6th

Dear Ma

Today is my birthday and I will devote a few minutes of it in writing to you. I wrote to Pa several days ago, telling him of my being in the battle that was fought here last Saturday and Sunday, but wrote very indifferently not being in a humor to write, having slept none the night before, for I marched all night through mud half leg deep. I have got accustomed to living hard and don't mind it now. We are getting enough to eat now, and anything is good, that is victuals. It rains now nearly every day, but I keep dry, for I got two good light oilcloths from the Yankee camp the day of the battle. You have no idea how well fixed off they [sic.]. They all had small tents, which they can take to pieces and carry on their knapsacks, besides oilcloths and everything that a soldier needs. Our men (all that wanted) supplied themselves with tents, India rubber cloths and blankets. Two or three of us put our India rubber cloths together and keep perfectly dry under them. Have you sent the box? If not direct it to Fred to the care of Messers Pulliam and co Richmond. I am not now in need of shoes, having just drawn a new pair. I miss my knapsack very much, would not have lost it for 25 dollars. Do you remember how it was made? For what price could you have another one made in Rome just like it? If it don't cost too much I wish Pa would have me another one made in Rome and try and send it to me by express. If you do, direct it to Fred. If you send it by express don't direct it to Pulliam but to Fred simply, 6th Ga. Reg. Kitt was sick at the time of the battle so he didn't get there till the battle was fought. We lost 97 men killed and wounded out of our regiment. Wasn't it lucky for our company. We didn't loose a man. I can't see how we escaped. A ball tore the collar of Capt Barclay's coat all to pieces, bruising his skin a little. If it had been two inches lower it would have killed him. Some of our boys went to the place where our regiment was engaged after the battle and they say the Yankees lay very thick, so we must have killed a good many of them. I saw a good many dead Yankees but didn't go to the place where our regiment had fought them, so I didn't see how many we killed. The battle ground was very unfavorable for us, for after we had whipped them we couldn't pursue them, for the ground was very boggy and it was fought almost entirely in the woods. Kitt and Fred are both well. Willie has Diarrhea, but is not sick much. Isn't Charlie glad the cavalry brought back his horse. Give my love to all the homefolks, Respects to the neighbors. It is almost impossible to get writing paper I had to borrow this.

Henry Bunn.