

Camp on Belle Island near Richmond Va Aug 11<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Mother I thought I would write  
you a few lines to let you know where I am as it has been some time  
since you have heard from me. I wrote to you when we were at Fairfax and  
sent my picture have not heard from you since that time. There are  
six of our company here we were taken the 6<sup>th</sup> of July near Hagerstown  
Md. We have tents to sleep in and fare better than I expected I am  
well and expect every day to start for Annapolis I will write again  
when we get there.

Your Son,

H. A. Smith.