



Washington July 4 1861  
dear father and mother I now  
take my pen in hand to let you know  
how I get along I am well and I hope  
that these few lines will find you the  
same there is grate doings here to day  
there is a bout 80 thousand men  
with in ten miles of here that belong  
to the union we had five ~~times~~<sup>times</sup> coming  
out here in Troy we get super there  
in New York the folks gave us a  
splended flag there ~~the~~ in <sup>and</sup> Baltimore  
the folks thought that we was to  
put bar them you would think it  
but to sit on the ground and have  
a smol box to write on on till the  
old & old say that John and Pin  
is well and in good spirits we  
should like to be in Vermont  
to day but but ring we cant