

Camp near Harrison's Landing
July 5th 1862

My Darling Wife.

This is the first opportunity I have had to write to you since I wrote last, which was nearly two weeks ago. Since then I have seen hard times, but am safe so far. Thursday June 26, Jackson appeared on our right flank & made an attack. Since then it has been fight, fight, almost daily. I will not attempt to tell you of the general movements of the army. Our division had a fight Friday & another Saturday & another Sunday, & whipped the enemy severely each time. We were also in the greatest battle of all on Monday, but our division was less engaged in the infantry part of the fight & hence lost less. But such cannonading I never saw before. We covered the retreat of the right wing & were always on the alert & watch. I have been in command of the 3rd Vt all the time, since the first battle on Friday, when I was in command of the 77th N.Y. & have been the last man to leave some of our positions. Col. Heyde has been away sick all the time. Major Leaver is here, could not hear from his wife for 10 or 12 days or write to her, & she was not expected to live, but he has heard that she is alive. The