

Camp near York Town Va

Apr 23th 1862

Dear Mother

I now seat myself
to answer one of your many unanswered
letters to me and partly for the reason
that I now have a little time to myself
and more for the reason that I have not
written in a long time before & as you have
seen had to send this without paying
the postage as we have not got our pay
and are all out ^{of} money and stamps please
send some stamps in your next letter
I am still Merrill as the same & with the
Company, to my joy, he is like a brother to
me the only & all the one that I can truly
say I can watch about in the Army
and all that I wish is to ^{do} by & for him
in a way that he may think the same
of me there is others far away from
when this was written that are closer