

Burkettsville Sunday Nov, 9th 1862

Dear Mother, John has left a page for me to write a few lines on, I read your letter & was glad to hear you are about ready to move down with Almira, I hope you will have good luck & good health & enjoy yourselves together while your sons are fighting for their country & the stars & stripes I had much rather Jonathan had staid with you than enlisted, but he writes that he thinks he can stand the hardships of a soldier, but he has seen but little of soldiering yet, & I hope he never will, but god only knows, if this war is not settled before spring we will all see plenty of hardship before next fall, but I have strong hopes that Abolition will try to crush the Tiber this Winter But be that as it may we shall try to do our duty to god & our country & hope to return safely to our homes, But in the fortunes of war many lose their lives some by bullets, but more by sickness & Exposure & neglect of the laws of nature, my health has been very good, I have had 2 slight turns of Ague & Fever, one lasted over 2 weeks, the other only 3 or 4 days, that is because our climate & this is different, my health I hope will continue good & I hope you & Almira & Elmer will enjoy yourselves & try to do the best you can but I must close this by wishing you good health long life and the society of your three sons in your old age accept this from your affectionate son Allen