

Near Staffords Station  
May 12th 1863

Absent Parents

it is with pleasure that I seat myself to write you another letter. I am as well as usual, and hope these few lines will find you the same. Enclosed you will find a check of \$32.00 we drew our Pay yesterday four months \$52.00 I am going to send the most of my money home I am going to send put it in another letter I dare not send it all in one letter for fear it may all get lost I shall send about \$18.00 more that will be \$50.00 and I want you to Pay all you can toward the land that is all you think that you can spare. I want you to keep enough to make yourselves comfortable. I want to pay up Mr Stevenson just as fast as I can. I shall send my other letter to day I guess. Well I do not know as I have much news to write I wrote about all I had to write in the other letter. the place where we had the Battle was called Chandlersville the report is that it was as hard a battle as was ever fought in Va. I suppose that you have heard all about the Battle in the Papers more than I can tell you. The report is now that our men have taken Richmond but whether it is so or not we cannot tell I hope that it may be so. you wanted to know how I felt when we went in the battle we had not much time to think the Rebs came on us by surprise as you might say they came in from the oposite way from what we were looking for them we knew nothing about this coming not more than 20 minutes before they attacked us. I did not feel as though I was going to get hurt we laid in the Rifle Pitts until we had orders to fall back but it was all a chance that I came out alive our Reg't went in with about 500 strong and came out with 280 loss about 220. when we came from Jamestown we numbered over 900 now look at. our Colonel was wounded and we do not know whether he is a Prisoner or no our Ajt was killed we suppose. our Flag had 22 shots through it and the Bearer was not touched he stood up like a brave man. our Brigadier General Bushbeck said that we fought the best of any new Reg't he ever saw. I had a letter from Uncle Isaiah the other day I guess I spoke of in the other letter. I want you to write as soon as you get this so that I will know that you get it. well I will have to close for I dont think of any more at presant. give my best respects to all enquiring friends amd my love to you all. so good by. I remain your Beloved Son,

J Washburn

[James W. Washburn, private, Co. C, 154th New York, *National Archives*.]