

[23 March 1862]

1 Dear Mother Pede

There is one thing that  
I almost forgot and the  
most important, And  
that is the Officers say we  
will get paid Monday and  
that is to morrow March

24<sup>th</sup> 1862 P.S. And then I  
will send it all to you but  
forget. P.S. And Charles will  
get paid at the same time

Mother when you go to  
New York dont you go  
around in the City  
Alone now will you for

if you do I shall worry  
my self to pieces you  
tell me in your next  
letter if you wont have

some one go with you  
because you will get but  
have some one go with you  
dont forget

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I Mother answer  
this letter as soon as you  
get it and tell me every  
thing in your next  
letter that I have asked  
you in this and I will  
will write to you again  
Thursday and you will  
get it Saturday go to the  
Post Office then Mother  
I have sent you a Paper  
it was a good Paper  
when you go then enquire  
for it this letter and  
Paper go from here at the  
same time so when you get  
this you ask for the paper  
Don't forget to Write. S. C. Allen

first Letter

April.. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1862

Dear Mother, & Sister & Caroline

I am well and hope  
you all are the same Dear Mother  
I don't know what Camp this  
is, but I saw better fortifications  
I saw about 700 miles from home  
we left Washington A. Week  
last Sunday and reached  
Alexandria Virginia about  
2 o'clock in the morning  
and stayed there two days  
and started away from there  
Sunday afternoon about dusk  
Mother you must know that  
we don't travel by day down  
here because we don't want  
any of the Citizens see our  
arriving so we travel by night

we are within two Miles  
of Rebels pickets we are 12  
Miles from Norfolk and  
the Rebels have got that we  
are 28 Miles from York  
Town and 5 Miles from  
Great Bethel. we only  
got here today where  
we are encamped now and  
when we was coming  
here we got on the wrong  
road and was within 3 and  
a half Miles of the Rebels  
Camp and the other officers  
found that we had got  
on the wrong Road and  
they came up in great  
haste and told our Colonel  
where we was and he  
was scared so that he turn  
red white he did not  
tell us of the mistake

untill we got where so  
we now you see the reason  
was that we had our  
Rifles but we had nothing  
with us to load them  
with they had not yet  
arrived but I hope and  
pray to god that the Lord  
will spare all of our  
lives to reach home again  
and spare yours  
and Marys that we  
will live home together  
not brother pray to god that  
he will spare all of our  
lives to Charles Artthur  
and mine to come home  
again and spare yours  
and Mary to live and  
I hope have good luck untill  
we get home live and be happy

brother I saw one of the  
greatest sights last night  
that I ever saw or even  
expected to see and I  
hope that I never will  
see again, as we was  
marching last we pass-  
ed through the city  
of Hampton Virginia  
and the Rebels before  
they left it burnt every  
house to ashes the most  
of the houses were built  
of Brick but it lays all  
in ruins at the head  
of the road they block-  
aded the road by driving  
large posts in the ground  
and then trenches dug  
ten feet deep then the  
dirt thrown up against