

May 7 1863
Camp near Spancksburg
Dear mother

I will write you a
mother letter to inform you
how I am getting a long
I am so tired and sleep
that I dont now what
to do I have just come to
camp we have killed the
yankys so bad they
dont now which way to
go but the worst of all
I am sorry that I have
~~got to~~ tell you that
bud Frank is dead he
got killed in the battle
on Sunday last the third
day of May he was
shot with three the
least he was killed
dead on the field I
was with side of
him when he was shot

I got his watch and all
of his things out of
his pockets it was the
hardest fight that has
ever bin fought in our
company had forty
men in the fight and
come out with four
and if you dont call
that a hard fight I dont
know and the other company
was cut up as bad as
ours the was thirteen ~~killed~~
in our company and fifteen
wounded that made
thirty seven out of forty
too and the rest of them
is all nipping but please
tell Mr Deall where
you see him a gain that
his son was killed I recore

it is not worth while
to give you the names
of for you would
not know them
I want you and Pa to
try to get some body
in Whitford battalion
to swap places with
me I will give fifty
dolars to boot Mr Dease
rite to me for I have
not had a letter from
home since last spring
was home last winter
and you dont know how
glad I would be to
get one I must come
to a close for I have
got to rite now as letters
to day and it is now nothing
more at present your dear son
until death J. E. May

Ma I will
tell you how to
direct your letter

J E May co H 2 regt

N.C Troops Banph
Banph
Bregade

in care of capt. e. M.
Chadwick

Richmond Va