

U. S. Hospital at York Pa  
July 29<sup>th</sup> 1863—

Dear Brother

I rec<sup>d</sup>. a letter from  
you several weeks ago, I think  
it was just before we left Aquia  
Creek, & that I did not answer it.  
It occurred to me the other  
day that I may often have neg-  
lected to notice <sup>by reply</sup> remarks suggestions  
&c in your letters — as for instance  
I do not know whether I have made  
any reply to your correspondence  
about Miss Barnes & Burr. — I was  
much surprised when you first  
wrote me that I was in debt to  
them, for I recollected that my in-  
tention had been to send them a sum  
more than sufficient to pay ~~for~~  
price & postage of the book that  
I obtained from them, since I could  
not know what the exact amount



might be, & I intended to send  
for other books: but my agreement  
with W S made me drop my plans  
& forget my dealings with those  
Gentlemen; I am glad that you  
succeeded in obtaining evidence  
which enabled you to prove to  
them the true state of my Acc<sup>t</sup>, &  
if you will give me their address &  
the date of their last to you I think  
I will write to them for the 50 cts.

When I was wounded & assisted  
from the field on the 3<sup>d</sup>, in a faint-  
ing condition I lost my knapsack  
&c including your letters.

I was the only Skamatis "boy" of  
the 149<sup>th</sup> (at least in our Co) hurt at  
Gettysburgh but Dan M<sup>c</sup>. Cord of  
Mottville had his leg wounded &  
amputated; he was doing well  
when I left him at the 12<sup>th</sup> Corps  
Hospital at G. I suppose we had  
about 35 men in our Co in the  
battle; 2 were killed & 3 wounded;



Lieut Barnum was on picket the day of the battle & wounded himself in the foot by the accidental discharge of a pistol. Capt Townsend went home 2 months ago on a sick furlough & had not returned on the day of battle. Col Barnum was with us in battle until overcome by fatigue, Lieut Col Randall was with us until wounded by a ball through the breast, he ~~was~~ doing well at the Corps Hospital; Maj Cook was wounded at Chancellorsville. As for Regimental Officer we have only Col Barnum whose health is delicate owing to wounds rec<sup>d</sup> in the old 12<sup>th</sup> & for Co officer Lieut O L F Brown, unless indeed additions have lately been made. The other day a son of Constable Thorp of Skaneateles introduced himself to me at dinner he belongs to the 122<sup>d</sup> & had the top of his



thumb shot off at Gettysburgh.

Our Hospital ground is a square field of 20 acres bounded on 2 sides by a high close board fence & on the other 2 by a double row of 1 story buildings (badly ventilated & hot in warm weather) which compose the hospital. We have over 1200 patients mostly doing well & suffering little pain at present.

Fortunately for wounded men the weather for many weeks past has been mostly cool & cloudy but this must have been bad for the harvesting of hay & grain.

When you wrote to me in the latter part of May that you thought you had it nearly as warm as us in Virginia you must have been mistaken, I found ripe field strawberries on the 20 May & was nearly baked by the heat. Your affectionate friend  
Wm. Smith