dont be at all alarmed about me, as I do not mean to get Killed. W—

Camp of 93d N.Y.V.
Near Gettysburg Pa.
July 5th 1863.

Dear Uncle.

Your kind and welcome letter, was received at Westminster Md. I am glad to learn that your health is so good as to enable you to attend to business as I know you are apt to do when well. With you I trust to return safe from this war and that too the same as I left home, and rest assured — Should any of your family ever stand in need of a friend, my life will be all to short to repay the debt of gratitude I owe to you, who have ever been a more than Father to me.

We have had an awful fight here, But thank the Lord, Our

Enclosed I send a Photograph to Lib, will write to her or Aunt Hannah as soon as we get encamped wherever we are going.

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Army has given the Rebels an ever-lasting thrashing. The hearist fighting was yesterday, and to-day they are in full retreat, and our Army Entire is after them. This is the first time since the organ-ization of the army of the Potomac that the rebels have met our men in open field, fight, and I dont believe they would this time but that (as the prisoners say) their officers told them they were to fight the Militia, but they found to their cost that the old Army of the Potomac was around. We must have taken about 8.000 prisoners. the loss in Killed and wounded on both sides must be 25.000, and some say the rebels alone have lost that number. Gen'l Lee tried to come the flag of truce game on Gen'l Meade, but it failed to work. Gen'l Meade

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sent back and that he would bury their dead for them.

We are encamped about ½ a mile from Gettysburg, right on the Battle field which is very large. I have seen but very little of it, as we have been momentarily under orders to be ready to move. We expect to go to Emmitsburg in the morning. About a week ago Our 2d Lt. was detailed to take charge of a squad of men to guard a valuable train of Hospital stores (from Washington) just arrived, they were camped near us yesterday but moved this morning, and it is reported that two of his men were killed by a shell, yesterday, but as his train is moved we know nothing for certain whether he is hurt or not. I dont know whether the first battle of Fredricksburg, or

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this was the most severe, but it does seem as if this beat anything Denver heard before. The citizens are doing all they can for the wounded, my Barn, House, and tent is a hospital and the smell which arises from the battle field is sickening and intense.

I wrote that I had got John back again. I expect to have him restored to duty without trial but the order is not yet issued as there has been something else to attend to at A. G. O. for the past five days. Quite a number of our A. G. O. Officers are killed and wounded. One of them Gen'l Warner was wounded right in camp by the bursting of a shell, a piece of which struck him in the throat. Take it altogether we have had very lively times for a few days

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We left four Companies of our Regt at Westminster Md. doing Provost duty Lt Col Butler was Provost Marshall so there are but six companies of us here. Capt Barnes is in Command of this Battalion, We expect the other four Co's to join us at Emmitsburg Md.

I have been just as well as possible to be, during all these marches, which have been unusually severe, not even have I been foot sore, and we are so toughened to it, that we can march twenty odd miles with ease any day. We started from Westminster in the rain about 4. O.C. (of the day we came) intending to march

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all night, but the roads were so blocked up we only marched to the O.C. and then lay down in the rain slept sound till daylight and then marched on here, 25 miles, I dont see why we came to that place any way, as we were most here once before, and the Gov't staid here then.

Trusting this war will soon end favorably to the Union, and that I may return in safety and in honor, I remain with much love to Aunt Hannah and all.

Your Affectionate Nephew

Wales.

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