

U. S. General Hospital
Annapolis Md, Aug 28th /64.
Dear Cousin.

It has been a long, long time since I rec'd a letter from you, & hardly knew how to account for it. Till to day I rec'd a letter from Maggie saying she had just rec'd a letter from you, saying you had written me some few weeks since, hoping that the time will not be as long in the future. I will try and give you a rough sketch of what I have been through. Our first fight was at the wilder rap, where we lost quite heavily. I went into the fight with twenty three men & came out with ten.

I reced a Sun-stroke at that
time & am now suffering from
its effects, Next was the great
Raid around Richmond, which
was more than I ought to have un-
dertaken, we started the second day
after the fight on the raid, my men
helped me on my horse & out to
Richmond we started, fighting nearly
all the way, we had some amusing
scenes & many very sad ones.

Next came the raid on the Din-
wiler R.R., which was hard work
indeed, on the 27th ^{of July} we crossed
the James R. with the 2^d Corps
where we had a pretty hard
fight, we crossed the next day
& moved to the extreme left of
the Army, & remained one day,
when we reced orders to move
to Washington. Taking Transports
at City Point, we arrived here
at Washington on the 3^d of this

month. On the 5th our Brigade
marched triumphantly through
Penn Avenue in rows for Harpers
 Ferry, where we arrived on the
eve of the 8th. There I was obliged
to leave & come to hospital arriving
here on the 10th, pretty well
used up. The right side of my face
is paralyzed & I have but little use
of it - & the sight of my eye is
nearly destroyed, still I am in
hopes to recover sufficient to
return in a short time. I am
thankful that my affliction is
no worse, when I contrast my lot
with many that are here.

I have applied for a leave of twenty
days & am in hopes to be benefited
by it. I should have been very glad
to have met your Bro & wife, while
visiting in Maryland, but at that
time U.S. could not spare any of
us. Should I be successful in getting

my leave, I should be delighted
to see you at Mother's.

They are very anxious for me to
come home for a short time, & oh, would
it be good to see those dear faces once
more, - the changes have been great
since I left them last, then we were
all happy, since then we have been
called to mourn for a dear Bro, who fell
in battle at Drewry's Bluff - he was
a noble Bro, brave to a fault; - Poor
Lizzie mourns his loss very deeply.
Yet he is but one of the many that
have given their lives for their Country
Cause. Very Co has suffered very much
this summer, the Casualties are
thirty five, & when I left I had but
twenty five for duty. Some of my best
men have fallen,

This is a very pleasant locality, & well
adapted for Hospital purposes, the
buildings were formerly used as the
U.S. Naval Academy, there are some
four hundred officers here at present;
It is growing late & I must close,
Remember me with much love to all
I am, ever your Aff^t Cousin

Sam,

P.S. all were well at home
when Maggie wrote.