

Hagerstown Md
July 18th 1863

Dear Sister

Having a good opportunity to write, I will let you know something of our whereabouts. Our army has been in line of battle here for two days, awaiting an attack from Lee's army who does not seem disposed to hurry himself about it, though he may at any time attack us. We look for it tomorrow, we are strongly entrenched over line reaching from above Williamsport across by Hagerstown & joining the river again below Williamsport, Gen. Rosecrans is in the left, Gen. Bull the center & Gen. Lee street the right.

I do not think Gen. Lee will stay here long, he is waiting for the Rebels to flee, but he will give the Enemy a fight if they desire it, the army is in fine spirits, but dirty ragged & barefooted, I have had on my clothes scarcely a month my pants are nearly worn out, so you may make me up two under shirts two pair drawers three pair woolen socks a pair pants, & a jacket if you think you can make it. The fit, if not I think I can have one made here, do not make the clothes too large make them up & keep them as near as you can until we get back to Virginia, I can make

eat with what I have until we get across
the river which I think will not be long
the army is in such a bad condition as
far as clothes are concerned & our means
of transportation are so limited & provisions
so poor to haul that we are compelled to
re-cross the river.

I feel rather low some sometimes with
the few of us that are left, but don't eny
Lieut Lyle & Ephor who were not in the
fight have joined us, so there are now five
Lyle Jones Whitmore Ephor & myself
the rest I suppose are captives, except
Arnold & Payton, we fear that some of those
that are captured are wounded but do not
know certainly.

I have heard nothing from Cousin
Sunday since the fight.

I wish when you send my clothes you
would send me a small Bible if you can
get one, my Testament got wet & is torn all
to pieces, I have to borrow one when I
want it - Good bye God bless you all
your bro
Ed

Well Seneca I got her letter yesterday I will
answer soon, I think if she could see me she
would think the glass was off my Blue Suit
Ed