

United States General Hospital
Sections Ward 22
Annapolis, Maryland – July 30, 1863

Dear Sister,

Again I take my pen in hand to let you know where and how I am. I am now in the hospital at Annapolis, Maryland. I taken sick at Hagerstown and sent I had the information on the longs but I am getting better now. It is some time since I heard from you. I do not know but you have written to me and I have not got the letters. It is some time since I hence written you for I have not had time. We have had so much marching to and some [illegible] hard marching. We started on the 12th of June from Stuford Courthouse in Virginia and marched to Gettysburg in Pennsylvania, a distance of over 200 miles and fought one of the hardest battles that has been closing and that was at Gettysburg.

I have witnessed of two battles and were in them. I saw my fellow [illegible] full around and I expected my turn would be me next, but as it so happened that I came out safe. We lay supporting a [illegible] fire on the 3rd of July about 4 o'clock in the afternoon the rebels made a charge on our center but we [illegible] with great slaughter. There were three out of our company killed, two [illegible] sand. One sergeant and 8 wounded and out of the regiment those 190 killed and wounded but we helped the rebels out and they glad to get away. [illegible] is most to much for General Lee. He has now cut off. Has retreat from Richmond. I hope that this Rebellion will be put down and let us Soldiers go home.

The rebels are getting some discouraged. A great many of them give them [illegible] up and say that they will not any more. This war is going to make a many orphans and widows and [illegible] us there is about 2,000 sick and wounded in this hospital. It is a pleasant place here. It is on the Chesapeake Bay about 40 [illegible] from the shore. The buildings are made of brick and [illegible] are made all over the place. Before the war broke our it was a [illegible] academy. There are several monuments here erected in memory of some great [illegible] officers, one by the name of Wudsworth.

I hope I shall soon be able to return to my regiment but I do not know how soon. I wish you would write soon and please direct your letter. But I am not able to go just yet. I will give my address. I now come to a close.

From you most affectionate brother,
Samuel Willard

Samuel Willard
United States General Hospital
At section 2 Ward
Annapolis, Maryland