

Falmouth, Va.  
Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> [1863]

Dear Farley

Although I have just written to Mary, and have nothing of much interest to tell you I feel that your kind letter ought to meet with the best return in my power, and shall try to write a few lines in answer. In my letter to Mary I have spoken at some length of the move of the army and shall pass that over entirely and confine myself to more personal matters. I wrote a short letter to Seward a few days ago, in which I spoke of a match game of ball played with the 4<sup>th</sup> NY I wish you could have seen it. I played 2<sup>nd</sup> base and think if you had been here you would have been proud of your brother.

Although our adversaries were from New York City they admitted that our 2<sup>nd</sup> base was played up to the handle. At the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> innings the game stood tye (*sic*) but on the 9<sup>th</sup> owing to some wild throwing on our side they made four or five runs and beat us two tallies, the score standing 17 to 19. Port has been over here twice lately and looks very well. <sup>1</sup> I am afraid that their Regt was moved day before yesterday if so they must have suffered. When I visited the 140<sup>th</sup> some time ago I could plainly see that C. Burtis was about tire of the service, and was not surprised to hear of his resignation. He came out for a lark and was disappointed. Poor Boy! Port tells me that H. Swan has a commission. Ed will be glad to hear it. I hope however that it will not have the tendency to make him enlist, as that in my estimation would be madness. It would kill him in less than three months. <sup>2</sup>

I see that the R[ochester] papers are full of a plan to drill a body of men and have them ready at a moments notice for some sudden attack. The plan may be a good one, but it would take more head work than the present commissary dept seems capable of, to feed such a mass of men suddenly thrown upon them for subsistence. Speaking of papers reminds me that I have not acknowledged the receipt of the *Democrat*, three numbers of which I recd today. They were the first papers with the exception of one *Tribune* that I have received and I am much obliged for them. The ΔΨ' [Delta Psi] matter you referred to in your first note I have spoken of in my letter to R. Cook and need say nothing about<sup>3</sup>.

Love to all the boys  
Your Bro Sam

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Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Farley Porter was Sam's younger brother. Mary was his sister. Seward is Seward Gould. Porter Farley was his cousin.

<sup>2</sup> Charles H. Burtis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Co. H, 140<sup>th</sup> NY was discharged on Dec.23<sup>rd</sup> 1862. H.Swan and Ed – no records found.

<sup>3</sup>Delta Psi, was Porter's fraternity, Iota Chapter. R.Cook could be Rolland Clarke Cooke, U of R class '63 and fellow frat Member.

*Democrat* was one of the three Rochester dailies, supported Lincoln from the beginning.