Transcribed by Terry Crooks. The original letter is in the Porter Family Papers, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Rochester Libraries.

> Head Quarters 3<sup>rd</sup> Brig November 6<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Father

The Genl leaves tomorrow for Delaware on a ten day leave of absence taking Parsons with him.<sup>1</sup> During their absence I shall be chief fiddle around HdQrs. A few days ago I invested in horse flesh, and have no money to send by Parsons for the things which I want, I will therefore be obliged to call upon you for fifty dollars which you will please hand the Adjutant.

My horse is the prettiest thing you ever saw, a black mare small but perfectly formed and not a white hair on her. She is pronounced by all the handsomest beast of her size in the Corps, and I would b not take \$350 for her. I was obliged to pay cash for her so am rather short. Parsons is to bring me a citrins (*sic*) saddle etc etc. I am well and enjoying myself. I see Seward Gould often and the boys of the 140<sup>th</sup>. <sup>2</sup>Tell F[arley] that if he has not sent the balls I asked him for to give them to P.

Much love to all

Your affect son Sam Porter Capt ADC and A.A.A.G

Endnotes:

<sup>2</sup>Seward Gould was a Captain in the 4<sup>th</sup> NYHA.

The 140<sup>th</sup> NY was another Rochester unit in which his cousin Porter Farley once served.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> General Thomas Alfred Smyth and Theron Edwards Parsons.