U.S.A. Genl. Hospital Div 1. Ward A Beaufort SC July 24/64

Cousin Juliett,

Not having time to answer your letter of the 5th Inst.. at the time I recd.. it. I take this my earliest opportunity of doing So. Saratoga pass indeed. had a narrow escape. It rained all last night, and all the forenoon today. You are quite right about Cousin Josie being a great "critic". I shall be careful how I write to her, and if she finds much fault with it and does not like my style, why. I will not write anymore.

I have made application to be sent to my Regt.. and think I shall go with the next squad that leaves the hospital. It may seem strange to you that a patient in a hospital should have to <u>request</u> the Dr. to send him to duty, but I assure you that I would not be able to get away from here this summer, did I not <u>urge</u> the matter. and almost insist upon it. The reason why this is so is because they found I was useful here and meant to keep me. I think I will be better off in the Regt.. and intend to go. Perhaps you may blame me, but that will do no good now for the "die [sic] is cast."

I received a letter from Helen a few days ago. She said that one of there [sic] old neighbors at Saratoga had been there: Mrs. Gillis, you may recollect her. One should not compare yourself with your cousin if the comparison is unfavorable to you. If we would be happy we must compare ourselves with those <u>less</u> fortunate than we are. But it will not do for <u>me</u> to say much on the subject for I am too prone to look on the dark side of life, and think myself the most miserable of all beings. Remember me to all, and believe me as ever yours

Please direct here

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