

Headquarters 1st Div
Berwick City Pa. Nov. 16th 68

Dear Friend Mollie.

At last my anxious mind is some what relieved by the reception of your highly interesting epistle of Nov. 11th for which I am under many obligations and letter has been one month on the way. That fact renders it none the less welcome. Am anxious to give you a good scolding for not writing often. Just think that I have heard from you but twice in three months and written at least a dozen letters. Big ones. Too. Know you will do better in the future. Could not hang me higher than by writing so few letters. remember that "these are blue days for me" too. Only much bright by thoughts of a happy future. With my "own Mollie" (You said that). You say that my "inquiry puzzled you". Can't think that I am so indifferent about the matter. Why should ^{not} you wish to be respected. Yes you ^{are} it is not the duty of one who has been honored & blessed with the confidence of one so noble and intelligent. to do every thing honorable to promote the peace and happiness of the one reposing the confidence. Therefore why I am indifferent about what event in I may follow. So because that my profession would have to be re studied. Which will take some time. much longer to establish a practice. that would enable me to do. and live in a manner that is dec. grow. And requisite for our happiness. which is the great object to

sought for. The Study of Law. Also the
practice. I like better than any other life
and think it the best for one who wishes to
be "some body" It is said to be "the only road to
fame" but few that get there. I had formed an
idea that you disliked the profession: and then
made the inquiry. Time will present the matter
more fully to us. And then that matter can be
decided. Just at this time there are grave duties
to be performed by the Sons of this Nation. Our
Country calls. And every man should assist in
striking the fatal blow. Fear that we have many
days. Perhaps years. to endure the hardships of a
soldiers life. The last blow is struck. My own
heart and inclinations. Say. quit and go home.
Fear that is selfishness. Patriotism on the other
hand says fight on. Can't tell which will
conquer. Until I hear from Indianapolis Ind.
that will quickly determine the matter. Should
I mention you will then see me. at Ostrington
determined to pay you a longer visit than my
last. That would be pleasant retreat from the
wild and hazardous scenes of War.
My mind has just been disturbed by the Brass
Band. in front of the quarters. playing the glo-
rious old air. "The girl I left behind me"
My thoughts of her are big — And you bet
that a sigh could be heard — and
tears ^{run} in the eyes of your Henry.
How such nice music arouses ones thoughts of
home and dear friends. And arouses every
patriotic feeling within in ones bosom.
Feel just like the Reds had better get up
and stand up now. Not funny

Don't see that your request. asking for a long
letter. is just what you always send me such little
ones. Though I must acknowledge they are worth
more than mine. Know that I am not noted for
being a good letter writer. Our campaign is now
ended in this section. And we are encamped on
the banks of Berwick Bay. Having gay times
eating. fish. Oysters. fruit. &c &c. And sailing
yesterday evening. We took our band out on the
Bay. Spent the evening listening to the band.
Singing & speaking. What a pleasant time.
One thing was wanting. Our lady friends.
Hope they have sweet dreams.
We are awaiting transportation for Brownsville
Texas. Go from here to New Orleans by rail
then take ships expect to have a nice time crossing
the Gulf. Should not wonder if we place our
gunks feet on the soil of New Mexico. Wont
that be nice. romantic. huh?
The campaign just ended has been the nicest of
the war. the country very fine the climate good.
Have only had one frost. to day the weather
is very warm. The hardy Yankee boys playing
with coats off - purty boys -
A few days since I visited the City of New
Orleans. had a fine time. Saw many of my
old army friends. Some that were with us
in Miss. And could have told the fine story
of the Rebels deadly show. And the waiting
What went up for the brave western heroes that
were no more - Was fearful that the
Eastern gents would get onions in their
purty eyes - Wasn't we - purty spurring

24. Osborn. You say thinks I have not
treated him right. Can't see it. Say to him to
prefer charge against me. Wrote twice
him, and he did not reply.
Now Mollie I have written a long simple
letter. I know that you cannot be interested
in its perusal. Won't you write me a big
letter! And soon.
Once think me Yours ever
Henry.

P. S. Address. Provost Marshal. 3^d Brigade. 1st Div
13th Army Corps. Department of the Gulf.

P. S. Better direct your letters to the Regt.
Just wanted to tell you what I am doing.
My health is now better than it has been since
I entered the service -
Per R



Mr. Mollie E. Smith
Grand View
Indiana