

Washington, Va. Sept. 9. 1863.

Dear Brother: I will now proceed to answer your letter which came to hand some time ago. The reason I did not answer your letter I rec^d in the spring is there was nothing new at the time, and afterwards when there was news I had no good opportunity to write. We were at Romney when I got the letter, we then left that place and went to New Creek, but we did not stay there long, when we were called into the field, we left New Creek on the 6th of July the time of Lee's Raid into Penna, we marched to Hancock, from there to Clear Spring and thence to Williamsport at the time the Rebels crossed over into ~~Pa~~^{Va} again, but we were too late. They had crossed before we got there, we were about 24 hours too late, we then retraced our steps back to Indian Spring opposite Cherry Run Station, there we crossed the Potomac and marched to Hedgesville where we had a little bit of a skirmish on the 18th which resulted in the killing of one artillery horse for the Rebs. It is also said some of them were wounded.

It was altogether an Artillery duel, none of
the Infantry were engaged: our Reg. was
deployed as skirmishers in front of our
Artillery. The Rebs had the boldness to open
on us with their artillery, but when
Gen. Averell's brave boys opened on them
with shell they soon began to hunt
their hole. after following them for
2 miles we retreated back to Hedgesville,
but our stay was not long, we soon
had to retreat as they were now coming
on us with a largely superior force and
in fact had almost surrounded us, but
we took up the line of march at dead
of night and made good our escape.
we had reports from good authority
that they were 30,000 strong. our forces
numbered about 10,000 men only. on our
retreat we got back again to Cherry Run,
where we were left unmolested except a few
shells thrown close to our Reg, in fact 2
passed over our Co. but none exploded, thus
no damage was done. a few days after we
went to Hedgesville again, remained 6 days, then
set out for Rd Romney once more, where
we arrived on the 5th of Aug. Where we stayed
until the 6th of this month. When our Co. came
to this place, and is now doing guard duty

here on the same day the balance of
our Reg. marched to Petersburg 27
miles from this place. you will
observe there are no troops here but our
Co. Nothing of note has occurred in our
Brigade since the skirmish at Wedgesville
before mentioned. Our Brigade consists of
the 54. Pa. 15. & 14. Va. Regs. & Inf. Capt. Moore
Battery from Wheeling and one battalion
of Cavalry from different parts of the
country. There are some Rebs. in the
vicinity of Petersburg and Chancellorsville
estimated at from 700 to 1,000, principally
Bushwhackers and will not stand a
regular fight, or they would soon be wiped
out, when closely pressed they take to the
mountains where further pursuit would be
pure madness. I must yet say that we
have a very nice place here, good quarters
though pretty heavy duty we can buy
a good many things from citizens
which tastes good to the Soldiers. How
long we may remain here is not known.
This place is 27 miles Southeast from
Cumberland Mch. The health of our Reg. is
good but few sick. I got a letter
from Father a few days ago he wrote
they were all well and all the

friends as far as he was able to
ascertain. My health is not so very
good, I have the ague now for some
time, yet I am not to say very
sick. I hope this will find you in
the enjoyment of good health.
We have had warm weather of late
cool nights, last night we had a
good shower of rain, to day is
cloudy. I hope you will answer
this soon and be a little more
punctual in writing hereafter as
I am ever anxious to hear
from you. Nothing more,
Yours Brother,

G. A. Wells

(A.B. direct same,
as before.)

New Creek

Marquette Co., Ind.