

we cannot endure as the experience
of this summer's campaign will
plainly show, If our whole army is
in as poor a condition as our Regt.
it is of very little account; taking
off the sick and wounded; ~~off the sick~~
~~and wounded~~ in our regiment and
there is but few left for duty. This
estimate does not appear to agree with
Northern men; but notwithstanding
the difficulties that are in the way
we may in the course of time conquer
the South but it cannot be done in
haste. Their army at present outnumber
ours as nearly the whole white male
population that are capable of bearing
arms are in the army, but the North may
in time wear out the South as it is in
a manner shut out from ^{the} world, and cannot
hold out as long as the North but by taking
time other nations may interfere and the
Union lost still, so every thing taken into
consideration I have but little hope that
the Union will be preserved, but perhaps
I am not writing to suit you as you may have
different views of it. I hope when you write to me you
will write more encouraging than I have to you, but
I have written more already than I thought I should,
when I commenced, and still I have not written all I would
like to write. I remain your affectionate brother J. S. Smith's

Camp near Harrisons Landing Va
July 22nd 1862

Mrs Juliana Reynolds

My Dear Sister

Yours of the 14th inst is at hand
and I will now try to write a
few lines in reply. I must necessarily
be short as I have not time to
write a long letter. I am now
engaged in the hospital and I
am kept so busy that I do not
get sufficient rest. There is about
80 in the hospital and four
of us has to attend to them, so
you can judge I have not much
time to spare. I have more to
attend to than the other nurse as
I have the powder deal out every
morning however I like my new
situation and I am now better
contented. it is the place I have

wanting even since I came here
It is harder than my old business
but I will get better wages besides
I will learn a great deal about
treating the sick. My health is
improving and I think I will soon
get pretty stout again. You speak of
sending a letter to me soon after you
received Tilton's and sending a copy
of his. I did not get it this last
one is all that I have received from
you since you got Tilton's letter and
I never heard what Tilton wrote, In
my last to Susan I asked her to
let me know what he had written
but it is not time for an answer
yet Dr Crawford got the letter this
morning stating the death of his child
and he takes it very hard I don't
think he has eat any thing since and
he lies in bed nearly all the time.
It is very discouraging to think about
this war as we see no prospects of

peace very soon and I fear but
little of saving the Union
You may call me a secessionist, but
I had rather see the Union divided
than to see the dreadful calamities
produced by this war, it is heart
rending to think of the misery and
distress occasioned by it. We thought
the battle of Bull Run a dreadful
battle; but our loss there was small
to what it has been in the late
battles before Richmond. If we
ever conquer the South it will be
at the expense of an enormous
sacrifice of life yet. The Southern
people are aroused to the highest pitch
of indignation towards the North
They are ardent, brave, and determined
and to fight a nation as strong as the
South is with such feelings it seems
to me to be useless. They are on their
own grounds in their own climate and
we have to go into a climate which

Camp near Harrisons Landing Va

July 22nd 1862

Mrs Juliana Reynolds

My Dear Sister yours of the 14th inst is at hand and I will now try to write a few lines in reply. I must necessarily be short as I have not time to write a long letter. I am now engaged in the hospital and I am kept so busy that I do not get sufficient rest. There is about 80 in the hospital and four of us has to attend to them, so you can judge I have not much time to spare. I have more to attend to than the other nurse as I have the powders dealt out every morning. However I like my new situation and I am now better contented. It is the place I have wanting ever since I came here. It is harder than my old business but I will get better wages besides I will learn a great deal about treating the sick. My health is improving and I think I will soon get pretty stout again. You speak of sending a letter to me soon after you received Tilton's and sending a copy of his. I did not get it. This last one is all I have received from you since you got Tilton's letter and I never heard what Tilton wrote. In my last to Susan I asked her to let me know what he had written but it is not time for an answer yet.

Dr. Crawford got the letter this morning stating the death of his child and he takes it very hard. I dont think he has eat anything since and he lies in bed nearly all the time. It is very discouraging to think about this war as we see no prospects of peace very soon and I fear but little of saving the Union. You may call me a secessionist, but I had rather see the Union divided than to see the dreadful calamities produced by this war. It is heart rending to think of the misery and distress occasioned by it. We thought the battle of Bull Run a dreadful battle; but our loss there was small to what it has been in the late battles before Richmond. If we ever conquer the South it will be at the expense of an enormous sacrifice of life yet. The Southern people are aroused to the highest pitch of indignation towards the North. The[y] are arduous, brave, and determined and to fight a nation as strong as the South is with such feelings it seems to me to be useless. They are on their own ground in their own climate and we have to go into a climate which we cannot endure as the experience of this summer's campaign will plainly show. If our whole army is in as poor a condition as our Regt. it is of very little account; taking off the sick and wounded in our regiment and there is but few left for duty. This climate does not appear to agree with Northern men; but notwithstanding the difficulties that are in the way we may in the course of time conquer the South but it cannot be done in haste. Their army at present outnumbers ours as nearly the whole white male population that are capable of bearing arms are in the army but the North may in time wear out the South as it is in a manner shut out from the world and cannot hold out as long as the North. But by taking time other nations may interfere and the Union lost still, so everything taken into consideration I have but little hope that the Union will be preserved. But perhaps I am not writing to suit you as you may have different

views of it. I hope when you write to me you will write more encouraging than I have to you. But I have written more already than I thought I should when I commenced, and still I have not written all I would like to write. I remain your affectionate brother,

J.S. Smith