

18 August
1842

(to left at Elizabeth
Town Post office

William Smith

1242

Essex County
N.Y.

Burlington July 28th 1814

Dear Friends

I have neglected writing for some time with an expectation of crossing the Lake soon but the black situation will not admit of my leaving Burlington until relieved by Major Merrill my health is good. a bad accident happened this morning sergt Lanford was shot dead by accident the ball passed directly through the large Veins of his Neck and killed him dead. we have no news of importance you have no doubt heard of General Browns success at the West it is all quiet on the lines battle dressing in every night. I have News a Neutral Vessel under Spanish colors arrived in this Port on the 24th ~~of the~~ entered and paid duties of a cargo of 300 boxes of Dry goods the same Spaniard has 300,000 Dollars worth for immediate sale at Mexico Bay to be brought out in the same manner and no doubt will soon have other arrivals from Europe the Keel of a 22 Gun Brig was laid at Vergennes last Friday and is to be launched in 30 days so says Report. Porter in the loss of the Essex fought harder than any other man

had you no pen ink or paper I should not expect a letter now I run every Mail ^{to the Post Office} I see the route advertised through Fay or to Fay and back to the Terfield but this you will all know before you get this. Encourage sergt George in Recruiting and in your concerns remember

A Troop of 95000 Militia
is called for

Isaac Finch