

Luther & Mark came to see me
last evening - they had spent the
day in Alexandria. M. looks
very well. - A regiment of the
O. M. G. is said to be in Bal-
timore; there is one or more regi-
ments here. - Did you ever get
my April pay account cashed?
I expected Robert would do it before
he left - but it seems as if he never
could do any thing right.

Perhaps I shall be able to write
more definitely about my leg to mor-
row. Dr. Norris came down to look
at it yesterday, but did not do so,
as the surgeons were all busy with
operations. He has promised to come
to day.

Love bye darling.

L B Brien

Douglas Hospital.

May 19 1864

My Dear Wife:

I have passed yes-
terday & last night quite comfort-
ably. My leg is better and is progress-
ing favorably, and unless inflamma-
tion should set in, I shall doubt-
less get along very well. As the
wound is so near the joint, in-
flammation would probably give
me a good deal of trouble &
greatly protract my recovery, if
nothing more.

On the whole I con-
sider myself quite lucky. It would
have been horrible to be left wound-
ed on the ground and burned to
death as so many of our poor
fellows were during the full days of
the fight. I was wounded in
my own camp, while making my

men to finish their breast-
works, in which they could
screen themselves from the
enemy's shells, which were
dropping into the camp rather
fast. The poor fellows seemed
very anxious to dodge out of the
way of the missiles, and as I
was driving them out of the
rifle-pits so that the men at
work, I could not have taken
any precautions for my own
safety. I was riding my horse
when the shells first began to
come, but after three or four
had burst over us, I thought it
as well to dismount, and
sent my horse into a ravine
when I thought we'd be safe,
- she had scarcely reached the
spot designated, when a shell
burst within 15 or 20 feet of her,

doing her no damage however. I
had caused my tent to be put up
so that I might write you a let-
ter, as we had been informed that a
mail would be sent away that
morning. One spherical case that
exploded immediately over it, but
no one was injured.

Yesterday afternoon we had a visit
from a couple of ladies - they had come
to see a Mess. officer who is in the
next room, & stopped in ours
a little while because they were
dressing his wound. She left a
handful of flowers with us, in
exchange for which I gave her a
violet, which I had picked up in
Virginia but did not think pretty enough
to send you. She is acquainted
with Schenck & I have some cur-
iosity to know who she is. She
promised to call again to-day - if
she does, I shall try to find out.