

Monday Aug 10th 1863

Marine Hospital Ward No. 11

Dear Brother

I have just wrote to Eliza & while writing to her the mail come in to the ward & it brought me two letters one from you & the other from M.C.C. Wal I have not got up from the stand since I finished eliza's letter but hasten to reply to yours as I always do when able to set up. My health is no better than it was three weeks ago. It is so hot here that it takes my strength all away in the middle of the day it dont seem as if I could stand alone when it is so hot as it is here some days. This is the most unhealthy month here in the year. So you see I am anxious to get started for the north & I am in hopes of getting started the last of this week but I may not

If we are separated perhaps for life but I trust not it seams as if we should yet spend many happy hours together. Wal Henderson these photographs I reckon I appreciate especially Gelse for it is the first time I have beheld his form since I left home it is very natural & I thank you many times for it & also for Mates I had one of hers before but not as good as the one you sent me. Wal I will close for to night & see what Morn will bring to my mind. Goodnight Aug 11th Wal morn has come bright & beautiful it is as warm as you pleas here but I feel better today than I have in several days. This morning I bought a cooked mackerel & ate half of him & the other half will go with my dinner. There grows cook fish & such things & as to the boys I will close for this time. Philand

