

45 St. Calvert St.

Balt: Md.

May. 19th/62

My Dearest Mother

I have just got your letter of yesterday. From my epistle to Father you will learn that I have missed the boat, & am about going down to Ft. Monroe in search of her.

Will write from there. I am now at Mrs Burnaps but shall leave at 3 P.M. for Old Point-boat.

The first night I arrived I was quite unwell, - old trouble, but since I have been better. I have had one or two returns lately but have always checked with with the medicine I rec^d from you. If I find myself unwell - get wounded or any thing of the sort I shall

return immediately, - to be nursed
by N. Y. ladies. There is no need
to enter the army for work. All
my spare time I can spend at
board the hospital boats with
profit. I got a flask this morn-
ing & filled same with Whiskey, -
they are the most usefull things
a man can carry who has any-
thing to do with the wounded. I have
volunteered on board the John Brooks,
C. Vanderveer - &c several times while
we were at Old Pt. & the great want
seems to be a little stimulant at
the proper time. Of course I never
act but under the direction of a
surgeon. Let all young ladies -
under 30, stay at home & help them
- there is plenty to do. A hospital
board here is not a fit place for
a young girl. Advise some of my
friends so.

In very great haste -

Your loving
Apprentice