and one Sugeon for a whole cone you will percein by what I have written. What I have written. What they were very strict many of our wounded come to the Hospital in very bade shape their wounds bing filled with worms and many have died since arriving as I can write nothing which Can bring you consolation (and as there is but one that can gim consolation in such cases you will of course look to that source for the Same and as I have performed my task I will bring my letter to a close by subscribing my self your firend and most obedient servant le le hugg Surger "y sud Mars B. Marrill

[Courtesy of Louise Koenig, Olean, NY]

Record Division Haspitals hear Brooks Station Va may 304 163 CHOLS, B. Mourell

Hind madam your letter of may 2.4 th is at had contents noted and in reply will way that I avail myself of this opportunity though a painful one it is to me to comply with your request spainful only because I am compelled to furnish you with the sad and to you painful knowledge of the cheath of both your Houshand and Son yow Hustand fill on Saturday just before smidow Her was wounded slightly in one of his shoulders and was aftereds shot in The head I'rom all that I can learn from your some the did not full mitil monday Their

hemains cannot be obtained we were not allowed the privilege of burying one dead It would between difficult to find your Dom Than your Freehand and you might as well look for a gold. dollar in the sea as to tig to find either of them your Honohand fell with those of this own Regt, But our Rest bing scattered on -Daturday they did not all get (Those that were living) together again until after the fight and consequently all that were found who were not with Their Right were put into the hanks among stranges and were compelled to fight Anday and perhaps monday too When if they had have been with their own Regt, they might not have been in the fight either of those days one adjutant fill montally wounded and lived

the on two days and this body can never be recovered for he with others were thrown together m. piles and covered mp of there had have been any such thing as to have becovered the tochies of Finands from the battle field his would have been obtained for 14 . G. Rive was here from Ellicotville and would have been glot to make any sacrifer to have obtained his body for this Finiends But it as in all other cases in This halle or rather sines (battles) is an atter mapopoility We had the privilege of cropping The hiver with our aubulances for the purpose of bringing off our wounded and not this even until several days after the battle and then none could go with them save the Siver and

Second Division Hospital Near Brooks Station Va May 30th/63

Mrs. B. Merrill

Kind madam your letter of May 24th is at hand contents noted and in reply will say that I avail myself of this opportunity though a painful one it is to me to comply with your request painful only because I am compelled to furnish you with the sad and to you painful knowledge of the death of both your Husband and Son Your Husband fell on Saturday just before sundown He was wonded slightly in one of his shoulders and was afterwards shot in the head From all that I can learn from your son he did not fall until Monday Their remains cannot be obtained We were not allowed the privilege of burying our dead It would be more difficult to find your Son than your Husband and you might as well look for a gold dollar in the sea as to try to find either of them Your husband fell with those of his own Regt., But our Regt. being scattered on Saturday they did not all get (those that were living) together again until after the fight and consequently all that were found who were not with their Regts. were put into the ranks among strangers and were compelled to fight sunday and perhaps monday when if they had been with their own Regt. they might not have too been in the fight either of those days Our adjutant fell mortally wounded and lived one or two days and his body can never be recovered for he with others were thrown together in piles and covered up If there had have been any such thing as to have recovered the bodies of Friends from the battle field his would have been obtained for A.G. Rice was here from Ellicottville and would have been glad to make any sacrifice to have obtained his body for his Friends But it (as in all other cases in this battle or rather series of battles) is an utter impossibility We had the privilege of crossing the river with our ambulances for the purpose of bringing off our wounded and not this even until several days after the battle and then none could go with them save the Driver and and one Surgeon for a whole core You will perceive by what I have written that they were very strict many of our wounded came to the Hospitals in very bad shape their wounds being filled with worms and many have Died since arriving as I can write nothing which can bring you consolation (and as there is but one that can give consolation in such cases you will of course look to that source for the same and as I have performed my task I will bring my letter to a close by subscribing myself your friend and most obedient servant

> C. C. Rugg Asst Surgeon 154 Regt N.Y.S. Vol

Mrs. B. Merrill

(Courtesy of Louise Koenig, Olean, N.Y.)