

4. Christian Diehl to his family, 1863

[Translation:]

Mr. Christian Diehl
U.S.A. Hospital
ward 33 Chestnut Hill
bed 53 Philadelphia
5 PA

The above is the
address to me

June the 21st 1863

Dear Mother, Brothers, Sisters
10 Brothers-in-law and Sisters-in-law.
I myself have to write you a few lines
or you'll still think
I am wearing out, how and
where I was wounded, you know
15 but that my wound is pretty much
healed and I don't have any more pain.
Dear Mother, I would have written sooner
but through our moving around I could
not well. We moved from [...]
20 hospital to Washington and
we were there four days then we had to
go to Baltimore. From Baltimore
to Philadelphia from there another 10 miles
farther in a nice hospital.
25 Dear Mother, you asked if I have
clothes and sweets enough to eat
I have here more than I can eat and better
than I can have at home and

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beyond that, for each week we
30 receive a rain shirt, four under pants and
socks and a coat that is distributed by
the hospital and doesn't cost us anything,
After the battle we
got money for two months.
35 I think if we have to move again
then everyone will be sent

in his own [...] then I will probably
come to Madison, writing
is going poorly with me and my hands
40 have grown shaky through the
long lying in the bed and the
bandages in my face, I can't see well.
I will tell you the story better next time.
I now want to close my letter and
45 I wish that these few lines reach you
in good health and greet everyone many
thousand times.
Write me back soon and send me some
post stamps. Ch. D[...]