

West Point Saturday  
Dear Wife as ben is writing  
I will pencil a few lines  
and put in to his letter I wrote  
a few lines to you the 8, the day  
we had our scurmish but did  
not write any partickulars  
and shal not write to day  
very partickular to day as you  
proably will see it more correct  
in the papers but will say that  
I think our Company was was  
placed in the most dangerous posi  
on  
that they have ever been placed  
in since we have been in the  
survice and dont think we evershal  
be again when Relels sot upheir  
brish fire in the woods and drove  
in our pickets we formed in line  
of battle in the fiel in front of  
the woods the field contained  
about 60 arors and very level but  
they never showed their heads in  
the field we then advanced to the  
woods we went in to the woods  
a short distance whitch was very  
thick and difioulth the artillery  
and gun boats was then orderd  
to shell the woods from where  
we was stationred to the distance  
of about three miles back

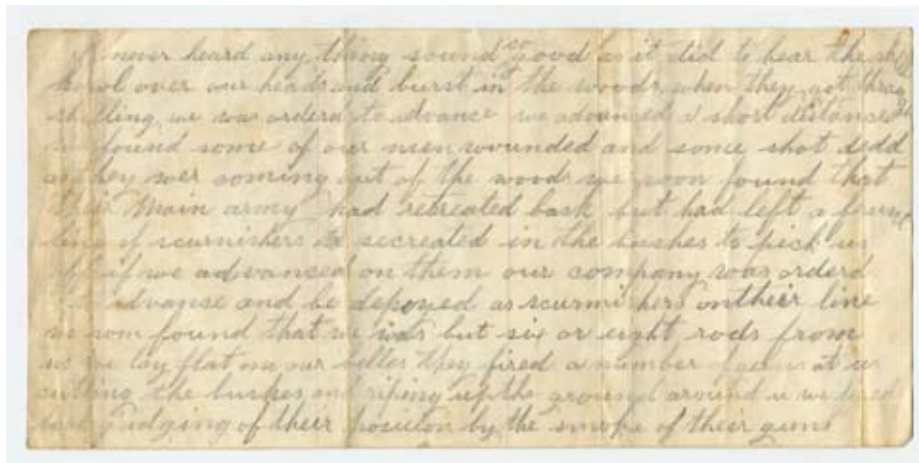
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MMN #35844

Date: May 10, 1862

Description: Marshall Phillips on West Point battle

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West Point May 10th  
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I never heard any thing sound <sup>so</sup> good as it did to hear the shell  
howl over our heads and burst in the woods when they got through  
shelling we was orderd to advance we advanced a short distance  
we found some of our men wounded and some shot dedd  
as they wer coming out of the woods we soon found that  
their Main army had retreated back but had left a front  
line of scurmishers to secreate in the bushes to pick us  
off if we advanced on them our company was orderd  
to advance and be deposed as scurmishers on their line  
we som found that we was but six or eight rods from  
was we lay flat on our bellies they fired a number of guns at us  
cutting the bushes and riping up the ground around u we fired  
back judging of their position by the smoke of their guns

so

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