

Sickles Hospital Ward O.
Alexandria Oct. 14th 1864.

Mr. Hinds,

Dear Sir:

Yours of
the 19th was received to day. I regret to say that Mr. Huff died this morning at 4: o'clock. His Lieut. was here the day before and tried to have the surgeon relieve him; but all was of no avail. The poor man lost hope, nature finally gave way, and he went with ease to his long home. In my opinion his life might have been saved by better care & treatment; if the actual circumstances should become known they would not reflect much credit on the persons in charge of this hospital. I know that the doctor has not enquired after his case once a week and furthermore he never

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MMN # 65107

Date: October 14, 1864

Description: Charles Lewis regarding the death of Mr. Huff.

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personal examination. I don't
know what to think of such things,
they appall me. It seems cruelty or
barbarity for a surgeons to retain
men in the hospital whom they
ought to know nothing but home
and the tender care of watchful
friends can nurse and restore to
health. It is sad to know so many
noble soldiers have been the victims
of such capricious, arbitrary and
foolish regulations. I believe med-
ical treatment ought not to be
coupled with military discipline.
This man was Mr. Samuel Huff
Com. E 17 reg. Me Vol. and resided
in Portland. He leaves a wife and
one child. I do not know his address.
Should his folks wish to know the minute
details of his last illness and death I would
gladly furnish them. My term of service ex-
pires this month when my address will be
Chas. H. Lewis South Manchester Conn.

Yours Truly

B. H. Hinds Mil. Capt. &c. Chas. H. Lewis
South Manchester Conn.

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[illegible]