

1862 PERSONAL LETTER from Shreve in St. Louis, Missouri, to his
Apr. 22 friend, Paul Declouet at the Marine Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.
Saint Louis, April 22nd, 1862

My dear friend Paul,

I have no doubt you will be as much surprised at receiving a letter from one who is an old friend as I was this evening on learning through a lady friend who met with your brother Alex at McDowell's College, that you had both been taken prisoners in the late battle of Shiloh. I little dreamed of such a thing, not knowing of your whereabouts since last July. I am grieved to learn that you have received a wound and trust that it is not a very serious one or does not cause you much suffering. I am ready to render you all the aid in my power, but as no one is allowed to visit the hospital it will be impossible for me to see you for the present, however I hope through the assistance of some one to communicate with you soon, I am anxious to take you home with me and then you will be well cared for and have every comfort of a home. The authorities have allowed some of the wounded to be taken to private houses and as you are an officer you might have the same privilege. I hope you are not suffering for the want of anything. Nothing will delight me more than to aid a friend and you dear Paul have not forgotten our associations. I am very anxious to see you and cannot rest until I find out how you are. The lady that saw your brother today reports him very well. I know you will not refuse to come and stay with me if allowed by the authorities. You have my best wishes dear Paul and may God protect and restore you speedily is the heartfelt prayer of one who takes pleasure in subscribing himself.

Yours I. V. A., Shreve

1862 P. S. Write soon. Direct Box 2151 St. Louis P. O. (or 51 Levee). If
Apr. 22
(con't.) you can give any information concerning Frank you will confer a great favor
as we have heard nothing of him since December.