

Culpeper Va Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 1863

My dear wife,

I started by express to day  
\$175.00 to you, for you to use as seemeth good  
in your need - Hoping that it will be accept-  
able to you. It gives me great pleasure to be able  
to do this much for you - I wish I could do more.  
It costs me a great deal more to live here  
than it did at Potomac every thing is so high  
Yesterday I bought some butter that I had  
to pay 75 cents a pound for and 50 cents for a  
gallon of milk - and only 100¢ a pair for  
very poor chickens - Perhaps you would say, why  
do you buy them? Because I must have  
something to eat. I can tell you we have rough  
times in the eating line. But I hope this  
won't last much longer. When I think that I  
am doing all this for the good of my dear ones  
at home I feel cheerful and happy under all  
these difficulties. I do not tell of this to complain  
but to let you know how I spend my money.  
Now don't let this distract our hearts from your  
comfort, for if it should I should feel that  
I was not contributing so much to your happi-  
ness. Therefore I would take diminish in a