

Camp near Brandy Station Va

Dec 13th 1863

My dear Wife,

You will see by my writing that my hand is much better, though extremely sensitive and nervous, as well as my whole system. Yesterday my left hand commenced swelling, and so very painful was it that I did not sleep till about 4 o'clock. This morning then I took a dose of morphine, the effect of which has not fully passed off. So badly is my system affected by this unfortunate accident that, I am most of the time tremulous, with shooting pains in various parts of my body. My mind is moody and gloomy. But I think I shall come out of it all right. I don't pretend to do any thing