

Alexandria

May 16. 1863

UNIV. OF
VERMONT

In the Field near

Alexandria La. May 16/63

My Dear Laura

I have again an opportunity to send you a few lines, and as I do not know how long it may be before I can do so again I gladly improve the chance - though I wish, and wish, a hundred times a day that I was where I could talk with you instead of writing. We have been up the Red River within about 30 miles of Natchitoches, but the rebels ran on their horses faster than we could go on foot so we did nothing but take a few prisoners and a great deal of cotton. After getting 18 miles from here, we came upon the piney woods, as they are called here - the pine is hard pine, the soil sandy, & abounding in springs - most of them warm, and having a strong taste