

Camp in the field near Sulphur Springs

1st Aug 20th 1863-

My dear Wife:-

Here I am sweltering in the heat of a Southern sun at midday trying to collect thoughts enough to write a letter to you. But I must confess that it is rather up hill work. Not but there are themes enough - but there is a want of energy to put them on paper.

I received your last letter accompanied by one from Helen. Both of which gave me much pleasure to read. I thank you for your sympathy for my wants. But you should bear in mind that these deprivations are the exceptions - do not occur very often. You think you would manage to live from the country then or see - that is easier said than done. As I have told you in one of my letters that there is positively not enough here to feed the inhabitants. And then I tell you that the country is very thinly settled. and the nearest town from then or an is over 13 miles - that is