

Culpeper Va Nov 17th 1863

My dear Wife.

I recd yours of the 3rd inst still on a march 3 days ago, and have not had a chance to answer it till now. Such a time we had I never saw and never want to see again. It was in the night and so dark that it was impossible to see any thing and I never saw (or rather felt) it rain so hard in my life. I had charge of the Ambulance train with the Sick of the Brigade. You cannot conceive the conditions we were all in when we got to our destination. No shelter for my sick nor myself. But I did not rest till I found a house and Genl Morris and myself took possession of it. I got my sick into it and made them very comfortable. Then they got remain. We have made it a Genl Hospital and I have charge of it. The house was before the War one of the grand Mansions of Va called the "Wallack Mansion" and I am now writing in one of the Chambers. The plan and the surrounding country is grand in the extreme even in their ruins. We are in the extreme front there being no troops (of Infantry) between us and the enemy. Who are prowling about us on all sides. It is not safe to go outside our camp guard, and that is now we are in danger of being gobbled up at any time.