

Harrisonburgh Va Oct 2<sup>d</sup> 1864

My dear Wife,

I received your letter the date of which I have forgotten as I burned it as soon as I read it - but it related to the Piano. I shall leave the whole matter to yourself. I received your letter this morning, the first I have had for a long time. We have had very stirring events in the past week and accomplished great results. I wish I could relate to you every thing and have you see it as I saw it. But that would be impossible. The destruction of life limb and property has been beyond description and we are still destroying every thing in the Valley. It looks very hard but as the products of the Valley are a source of support to the rebels, it becomes a stern necessity to burn and destroy. So far a kind providence has shielded me from harm though I have been repeatedly exposed to the mistle of death. We cannot be too thankful for these favors - and I hope I am not ungrateful of my indebtedness to the great preserver of our health and life. It is my aim to do my duty to our fellow