1860 June

SIDE ONE

Indd. June 10th 1860

My Dear Wife

It is indeed a lovely day. "A true penitent heart and a lively faith" only is needed, to make the participation in it a holy sacrament to perfect in its character: and all about us, even here, wears an aspect of rest such as one might almost think characteristic of that first Sabbath eve man had spent in Eden – I was about to say something of my imagination of your enjoyment at Ivy Neck, when the recollection of dear little Cornelia's suffering, and Anne Perot's sickness intruded itself. It did not however entirely dissipate the illusion: and I still indulge the hope that the one is better and the other able to partake in a degree at least in the green foliage: the steady bank: the darkening groves: the blue water: the varied shades of the opposite shore: and the great loveliness which I fancy around you. "Truly God is good unto Israel even to all such as are true of heart" and "He hath not dealt with us according to our sins nor rewarded us according to our iniquities" are texts which have been present to my mind during the day as well as that most extraordinary passage

during – I did not see the procession – but thought the mob collected on the pavement along the whole line must give an unfavorable impression of our people – Some of the Japanese have been riding to day & may have derived better views from the quiet of the Sabbath streets, and the crowds of well dressed people returning from church. – The entire suspension of business on this day must impress them strongly with its sacred character. I have been thinking however of the illustration of means absurdly inconsistent with what the whole offer betrays. The contempt and dislike and trample under our feet our brethren in Christ only because they wear a skin not colored like our own: and yet feted and received with lavish Sabbath-breaking – and seated at the table of the President, and introduced to our mothers and daughters barbarous pagans who are darker than many of the lighter colored negroes. You are communicating views – which are at the bottom of all our civilities to them. It would be more profitable to encourage the colony of Liberia which would furnish a better market for our manufactures than Japan ever will. – Well God reigns – He will overrule all for the promotion of His own purposes. Jesus shall yet reign in Africa & Japan

Much love to the dear children & our Cousins also

Yours affectionately
Caspar Wistar