1860 July 24 Philad. Chester

SIDE ONE

Philad. July 24th 1860

My dear Wife

I now enclose Sally's note which I had intended to do at the moment of sealing my last for the mail I could not lay my hand upon it. I shall make an effort to get to Chestnut Hill shortly - perhaps I may to day & if so will inform you how they all are. A gentle rain yesterday morning laid the dust & without being enough to saturate the thirsty soil was most beneficial. I took Chester and rode to Green Hill in the afternoon. They desired to be affectionately remembered, all perfectly well. Father walked a long distance with us to inspect the results of a stroke of lightning which occurred some weeks since which certainly were very curious - Annie Rost accompanied by her sister, Eleanor Hancock & her brother got away yesterday afternoon very comfortably. They were to telegraph for me if there should be any need of assistance. The rain had laid the dust for them, and if they have on general a temperature to day as we have here they will get on nicely I hope - I note your remarks about my coming to Long Neck - I do wish my dear wife to do simply what is right. as yet I do not see my way clear out of this city. I am best satisfied to leave it till the time comes. I feel sure I am in the right place. The only possible apprehension is that I may be giving you pain - what I will not do in any way if I can

to decypher was some account of a Pic Nic in the Vicinity to which the bard been and the names of persons whose acquaintance the had formed there. Among others the Woods. Is it right to incur the risk of these associations for her? I believe such parties of mixed associations of young people are injurious in all grades of society - but especially so in the lower where the restraints of refinement are not felt. You never mention poor Ellen. I feel quite unhappy whenever I think of her. Be careful lest we have another or a greater trouble of the same kind. Margaret is but a child - but if I may judge by the letters here she requires to be kept very carefully from harms way.

Wednesday Morng 8 O'clock

The postman visits us with early favors now. I have already received the missing letter with much pleasure. I said I will see the carriage this morning & then make our decision finally for the season. If this does not suit we will just drop the matter. Your letters are very emphatic but do not odd to the degree of caution we have already exercised - Did you see the beautiful meteor of the 20th. I hope dear little Mary may not be seriously ill. and that James & Lottie may be spared the loss of their babe. Sally is rather fastidious that Sarah will send Murray for her. With much love to dear Mary & Harry & the Chesterites

Yours sincerely & devotedly

Morris