SIDE ONE

Phila. Monday Night May 20th 1861

My Dear Wife. Harry had a refreshing nap this evening. I feel so much more comfortable than I have done for some time past. ~~that~~ though it is late I do not think I can relieve my mind better than by giving you on paper, that I have been able to commit you and our dear children all our concerns into the keeping of a gracious Father in Heaven with a little glimmer of Faith that as He has been merciful to us in past days, He will still extend His grace and goodness towards us. Humbly thankful I am of the least of His blessings. If He command a blessing "life forever more" all will be well. If He be for us who can be against us. All things shall then be for us. and tribulation and temptation and afflictions instead of separating us from the Love of Christ will bind us more closely to Him. There are dark and trying times before us but let us "trust in the Lord & be doing good" & all such His promise is sure. My prayer is for an increase of Faith. I should not have any more comfort if you were here. That must be sight of the flesh merely. and my only support must be a Faith in God's promises.

Bishop Whittingham's address to his clergy must take the place of the church straight. and will I hope have a good influence on the Congregations. But vain is the help of Man. "In the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength" The rain has fallen without cessation during the day so that I presume Brother G & Margaret did not leave Baltimore to day but I hope they will make you a visit tomorrow and that you may find comfort and pleasure from their presence.

Mrs Biddle had a letter to day from Mrs Talbot giving an extract from one from Isaac Murray mentioning his having seen Roberts delicate little wife looking & talking something like Rose Mrs Isaac thinks she is very pleasantly off there & says Robert Maple looks for her daily & himself during the summer