

I was this across the river the week of Oct-1865.

Orkneyburg, Canada West,

June 22<sup>nd</sup> / 1865.

Dear Pa,

I have just received a letter from brother  
Jimmie, at Woodbury, informing me that you  
are still in Va. I should have written to you  
long since, but felt sure a letter would not reach  
you in the then unsettled state of the country. Mother  
has suffered much uneasiness on your account, but as  
for myself I felt convinced you would remain with  
your friends until they were some what recovered from  
the terrible shock which we have all felt, but feel  
so acutely as they. I shall not attempt, language is  
inadequate to express my feelings when the awful  
calamity burst upon us. It is a grief almost too  
sacred for words. I was at that time (fall of R- &  
Surrender of Lee) in Va organizing a command. I  
addressed my men - telling them our cause was  
hopeless - that I no longer claimed in authority  
over them - to care for themselves. After several  
adventures I succeeded in reaching Canada. Jimmie  
only speaks of having heard from you - says nothing