

Phil^a Aug 8th 1862

Would My Beloved Minnie

I could hope that this letter
might reach you in due course of
time, I am so weary of this long rude
separation. I write because I can
no longer refrain from talking to
you and "as I know not the day
of my death," am unwilling you
should suppose that you occupied
less of my thoughts and affections
than when we had the privilege
of free intercourse. I have got your
letter dated 29 June. 1 July. the only
one since 24th Feby. to which I imme-
diately replied. & then too long was
open to convey a letter. your last
was marked "this letter" & reached me
from N York. I have often thought
that I must write every week, that
you might in time to come, get the
full diary of my loving thoughts
and prayerful wishes through
all this long disastrous war but
the dull & dreary seemed only stage
for sorrowful excitement, and more
evil things to keep up the fearful