

Washington, D.C.
May 13, 1864

Dear Brother

I received your letter of May 2 on the 5th and I was glad to hear from you. The weather is not so very nice at the present time for it is most to wet. Yesterday there was quite a hailstorm, and it rained very hard, it is raining now. and it is my opinion it will be a wet spell but we were in need of rain so let it come. Last Saturday P.M. the Marine Band played in the Park here, there was a great many people in attendance to witness the grand affare during which the President made his appearance in the Portico when he was seen the people made a rush toward him for a speech the President said he supposed they wanted so he proposed three cheers for Gen. Grant and his men under him and took his seat last Monday night there was a large number of persons assembled front of the White House in a brass band from one of the western Regiments on their way front. They played several times, the President come out on the Portico and was introduced to the people by Senator Foster he thanked them for the Honor extended to him but said it was not so much to him as on account of the good news from the Army so he went on telling how it pleased him the way things were going on it ended with cheers for the President and for Grant and the army there is no need of me writing about the fight for you will hear the news there as soon as we do here. Capt Perkins told me that Lamson Smith was killed in the first days fight There is a great many wounded come to the city but those that are seriously wounded are left in Fredricksburg you will hear of a great many being killed in this battle grand says he will fight it out on this line if it takes all summer. Buying and selling seems to be all the go in old Meadville I hope you will do well and make on that barn, good luck to you Cub is getting to be a fast young man but go in Fritz and squeeze the gals though and not be afraid to go home with them you know I am the devil after girls and always was the News is at the house the Reb. Gen. Joe Johnson is captured and I hope it is true, all the boys are well give my love to Granny write soon from Bold soldier boy, W. A. Cutter