Qualla Town N.C. May 2nd 1864

My dear husband,

I received a few lines from you yesterday for the first time in five weeks. I have become quiet impatient. I heard several times that you were at Richmond Va and did not know any better till a few days ago. I wrote to you some time ago by Lieut Welch but I presume he has not reached you yet. I have be flattering myself that you would get to come home in a short time but when I read your letter I was really disappointed and have been considerably in the blues ever since. We are getting along tolerable well with our crop considering the bad weather. We are about half done planting corn. I have on bushel of sweet potatoes to plant. I could not get any more. I have not got enough grain to bread us till harvest and feed the horses any but I don't know where the next is to come from. They are hauling some grain into the country but they are so slow. I am afraid some will be compelled to starve yet I never have witnessed such times before and hope I never will again. It is distressing to think of. The Indians are about to steal what a little there is in the country, they have almost ruined some families in this neighborhood. I had to buy some meat for which I gave 25 cents per pound in gold and they stole part of that an all the dried fruit I had. I sent Caroline off kiteing some time ago. I found her to e a worthless little huzzy. Your sister Harriet is here now but I don't know how long she will stay. I intend to go to the field this summer. I am going to try to make something to eat next year and if I thought the war would end this year and you would be here to help me eat it I could do it more cheerfully, but as it is I must acknowledge that I have but little heart to do anything.

Tell Eb that Tid and Josh Gibbs were married last Sunday evening at Shoal Creek meeting house by Rev. Wm Hicks. If it were worth while I would ask you not to wait till August to come home it looks now that is a long way ahead. We are quite well.

Your affectionate wife

Ann