

46M97. 1865, Nov 15  
1861-1877) Box 3  
Thomas H. Hines

Spate this winter. I am doing well with my law  
& French. I will do much better when you come.  
How long will it take you to pack? Two hours?  
Much love to all. Tell them to write to us often -  
I kiss you good bye - your husband -  
H-

I have not yet heard from you I -

Locust, C. W.

Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) 1865.

My precious wife,

Tomorrow will be the anniversary  
of our marriage. How successful has been the first year  
of our wedded love! Will the next be as much so: Or  
shall we quietly subside into the enjoyment of domestic  
tranquility - into a home "blessed with the sunny faces of  
children": The great searchers of hearts can alone tell what  
the future has in store for us; but whatever it may be, blessed  
with your tender, loving presence, I shall be happy.

I have been revolving in my mind for several days - the  
propriety - of suggesting your return. The principal obstacle  
in the way of my determination has been the thought of the long &  
tiresome journey you would be compelled to make. On the other  
hand - I have this to offer in its favor: I have been thoroughly  
convinced that I cannot possibly obtain a pardon (if at all)  
before March next. I have been informed that applications  
are pouring into the Department at W - at the rate of  
two thousand per week; that Ruf - is so much engrossed  
with business connected with the next Congress that he will  
not be able to grant any before August next; that he will  
employ himself in considering no pardons that are  
not of immediate importance. Besides these facts, I am  
led to believe that the abolition thirst for blood has not yet  
been quenched. Observe the fact of the execution of Perry.  
The announcement in this morning's paper that two more