Dearist One,

With all the horrors of this terrible battle in view, how can I write? Yet the old habit is fixed upon me and it would not seem like Sunday if I did not write to you! I will hope that all is well with you, yet the thought—that you may be wounded, dying or even dead—comes over me at times and makes me sick with terror! We may hear of a great victory at any moment, but of the safety of friends we cannot know till long after, so that our patriotic rejoicings are stilled by our apprehensions for our loved ones.

I am almost constrained not to write till I know that you are safe
but should you return from little excursions and write letters to home and me, I will be in a great hurry to hear from you. It would be, as you have said, a keen disappointment.

If any efforts are fruitless, remember the anxiety and excitement under which I sit.

Your letter of the 1st. inst. came last morning, you seemed cheerful and well; but you omitted to state that you were engaged in piano but the 23rd. I trust the suddenness of the attack may be in our favor; I certainly feel more hopeful as to the nature of the illness than our physician, though there is no indication that you will be up. Your health is of the highest interest to me.

Uncle John tells me to tell you that he has received a letter from Grant and Thayer.

Our community has suffered a great loss! Judge Morse has sold his farm and is going to Canada.
Our paper announces the fact very quietly and adds that several of his friends have also determined to leave for the same locality. I have not heard who they are. Robert called on Friday to tell me about the payroll which he had not yet cashed but said he was going to Cincinnati on Tuesday. He means to give it to me entirely as he said. Luther refused him $15. saying he would settle with you sometime. He said the saddle bags were paid for and should stand also.

Eliza was here yesterday. She is going with Robert on Tuesday. They seem to feel that they pay too little attention to you and yours, and are always apologizing. L. said yesterday that she felt sorry that she had never written to you, but perhaps you knew how it was with her.

Robert has bought his share of the business done for $23.00. Dr. Brady said he had not the ready money and would not close his part