

to be sure & put the oats cut
greenest in the lofts, & the ripest
in good ricks and well topped
with straw. You never have complied
with the request I made in two
letters to send me a condensed
summary of each days work since
I left. Maybe Lula will do it when
she comes. I guess you have been too
tired out with the fruit. Also do not
fail to keep the straw & plenty of it on
and well rammed around the ice.
I am trying to do the best I can & so
is my ship's crew viz. stable hands,
generally.

Set old Duncan have the raspberries on
account of the Clay Monument. Solomon
tells me to love & honor my father's friends.
Love to Mary & tell her to answer my
letter immediately & Nettie to write some
in it too.

Ever & Truly
Your devoted husband
John M. Clay

Do not over work yourself, & be patient
& not too anxious about this world's
affairs and a heap more about saving
your soul. Pray for me.

Catontown Monmouth Co.

New Jersey

21st June 1872.

My Dear Wife,

Your welcome letter of
the 18th inst came to hand 3 hours
since - Your said letter was postmarked
the same day it was written, hence
its arrival so promptly.

I am glad to hear our crops are
promising and that there are no
short comings to complain of in
our hands so far.

My last letter to you was written
in a spirit of indignation on account
of your quoting my text without
the context vs me. I do so fondly
love you that I am hurt when