My dear

I received your letter of the 9th this morn. It was very pleasant reading, I assure you. I got another this week so that I have faced better than you. This week has been quite destitute of water. I have bought some furniture & have have my room fitted up quite well in anticipation of your arrival. By the way you had better be looking out for some one to come out with. The merchant will be coming East pretty soon & you might take the company of James Pearson, Harvey Emerson, or some body else who would be pleasant travelling companions. My intention was to have you bring all the children, but if you should leave any, it ought to be better for we have so many young officers, that I am afraid they would spoil her. Frank & Bobby will get along better & I think you had better bring them. We may remain here so long, however, that you will
be sorry that you did not bring them all. — As to desks, do send as you please.

The Colonel has left the Post & starts for Indianapolis tomorrow. We belong to Col. King's Regiment. He will take the letter to help it in some place, so that it may reach you two or twelve hours, perhaps, a day sooner. — There may be no ladies, in the Post & there may be dead seals, by the time you arrive. May all your affairs arrive & will be here tomorrow, the effect of the bill probably be to send me from my place as commanding officer, which I shall be very sorry for. I must, 1st, increase my pay $31 per month, making it $210 instead of $175. I shall get pay for eleven days any way, and that is something in these times. I may perhaps return a little longer, but as soon as a sailing of from some, I of course shall be expected. I shall probably be the last Major to leave the Post, and will be likely to hold command again before the Regiment is organized. Recalling your two very lovely, we shall be several months getting our compliment of men unless the raising improves. If we do not succeed better when the three month volunteers come home I shall be in despair. I don't believe you will be very long, if you and I could live together six or eight months, longer. It would give me time to make greater progress in learning my profession, and to think of us & determine whether I had better remain in the army or not. It is a very handsome place, and secure, me a good deal of attention, and very few persons would entertain the idea of declining it. But the pleasures of home are not likely to be surrendered, and I should be sorry if any combinations of circumstances should lead...
to such a result. I needed however to
meet with men more than I have done late
by and in my present position I meet
them on fair terms. The responsibilities
which devolve upon me are well
calculated to make one cautious, &
call for the exercise of sound judgment.
The experience will unquestionably be bene-

14th
ficial whether it be of long or short dura-

I think you had better go to
as soon as you begin to pack.

You will want to
bring a good many things, I will have
no difficulty in filling your old one &
a new one. You must bring some double
sheets & pillow case & make all your ar-

rangements complete for staying several
months; and you need not be surprised
if the arrangements lack but a very
short time. That is the way things are
done in the army & we are all obliged
to keep ourselves in readiness to march on
a very brief notice. If we had no children we could manage this sort of life very well but with our three fairies it is not at all a desirable way of living. We shall have to put up with it inconvenience for two or three years, and then we will discuss and determine what ought to be done. — I have not been to see Belle Burrow yet, nor shall I get to hear Beecher to-day. Perhaps I may reach Sunday if I shall try to see madame this week. — I would advise you to commence your preparation immediately, so that you can learn by the earliest good opportunity. Don't wear yourself out getting ready — hire your being done I save yourself as much as possible. It is all in a life time any way & none know how short that may be. Let us enjoy the world rationally as we go along — living in the present, neither dreaming nor hoping too much from the future. Get what you want & think you need, without hesitation, & danger of being thought extravagant by me. Good by, dearest, & keep on writing.