Wednesday, Dec. 3.

My dear Wife:

I thank you a letter yesterday and one today. Therefore I wish you one to-night, at all. I read your of the 29th but a little while ago. This is commenced a new for the purposes of try something which I might possibly forget, if I do not write again a day or two.

A notice of a book, entitled "Illustrations of Universal Progress," I have just read in the N.Y. Tribune, has pleased me so much, that I wish you to buy the book and read it. I am afraid you are not lending as much as I would like you to, and I think you will find this book both interesting and instructive. I should buy it myself, but you have no way of carrying it on the march and to tell the truth, we have little time for while reading in the army. The same author has written a work on Education, which has lately been published by the same firm. As you know just how to be exercised on the subject, I would advise you to get that and read it also. If the books are not to be had at the book store, they can be had for. Do not mind the expenses, but buy them. Thank them carefully.

Monday evening, I stopped writing at this point, because I had determined not to send this letter to-day. But caring to have your letter too often by receiving
two letters in one day. I gave your
my "views" in a P.S. (Post-Script) to my last
letter, and, being a very reasonable per-
tom, I have no doubt that you sub-
scribe to them heartily. We are having
more snow and rain today. The out-
look was so disagreeable that I have
scarcely ventured out of my canvas
louge to-day, except to get my meals.
As a matter of course I feel lump-
ish and dull, and obey a natural
impulse to boost these pleasant at-
tributes, one who is musty fond
of you, resistance.
I do not think
you need worry much over my hand-
ing for the Judge Advocate Bureau.
Had not the Senate慎重 the case.
It would thereby also its employment I might
have had my longing eyes steadfastly on
that direction. But when I saw the
Senate's amendment I turned them away from it as a thing too long de-
irable and which I could not accept.
I must confess, however, that within a
few days I have begun to regard it with
a new interest. Spending my time mainly
in my tent, I have been thinking over my
prospect quite seriously, and have come
to look upon the place, the otherwise
not very desirable, yet as one which
would afford the greatest advantage to me
in preparing to leave the army. This step
which I see every day must some time
day, unless your happiness and mine
is to be shipwrecked. I mean of course by
leaving the army, only the strictly mil-
tary part of it, which involves, frequent
separation from my family and a ward
sitting, unlettered and unsatisfactory life,
very distressful to both you and me. The
Bureau of Military Justice is itself a part
of the army, but a part which is par-
moneously fixed about the Capitol of the na-
tion and which would not after con-
tract an absence from home. The date of
the belonging to it, I would not to completely
upgore the time that he could devote a
considerable part of each day to some con-
gruent task by which employ and repu-
tation might both be earned. And this is
my always that I have nearly arrived
at the conclusion that I would accept
the place even as a Major of Cavalry, hoping
that I can command the industry and u-
letrition to do some literary work which
would pay enough, together with the salary,
to enable us to live comfortably and respect-
able even in be deserving a place at Wash-
lington. I should get something more than
thousand dollars per year more than I do so, and so that I have no doubt ma-
ny of the quick tend to of that life well
enough. I should feel satisfied. That in my
event we had enough to live on, would
cluded not succeed in any other project, but
otherwise I feel I should become a most