

If I could have any assurance that the ~~office~~ <sup>office</sup> would be between Mr F. & C. then I should not think of presenting my name. But I begin to believe that Mr. Schenck has, not near as much influence with the President as he thinks he has. There are no indications, at any rate that he has any controlling influence over him. He may possibly be able to control him so far as to limit the choice between Mr F. & C. but I have no evidence that he can. If the President would say positively that such should be the case I would have a strong hope of securing the office for Mr F. but Chase, I know, will prevent that 'if he can' — You see how I am perplexed. Were I to get the office, I think I could make over any thing satisfactory to Mr F. but I hate the idea of putting myself, even apparently in opposition to him, and would really prefer that he should get it. — Enough of this for one letter. I shall finish this in the morning & start it for home in the afternoon; — that is, if you have been good & I get a letter from you.

Tell Mr. Welch John to see Redmond (I believe that is name) he is an Indian who lives in a new brick house on the east side of Main, just north of the cabinet over Seely's ditch & hire him to work for me or else —  
 Tim says if State remains in the field. Rice good friend of mine & can get me a good many products.

Sunday  
 Washington March 24.

I wrote you, this morning, my Dearest One, quite a long letter; & I commence another to-night because, firstly, I have nothing else to do, and secondly because I shall wish to write you to-morrow in answer to the letter I expect in the morning, and want to have a good deal of it written to-night, as I may wish to do something else in the morning.

As I expected Robert did not go to-day and does not know when he will be able to get off. He says he means to be home by next Saturday, but I think it very doubtful whether he is able to get off leave then. He is making something by prosecuting claims in the Department and while he can do this, I don't

think he will return; at any rate,  
until he knows whether he is to be  
Chief Justice of Nebraska. When that  
appointment will be made no  
one can say. He talked this eve-  
ning about getting me appointed  
District Attorney for the Territory. I  
do not think this could be ef-  
fected, and if Mr. F. gets the P.O. &  
I am re-elected City Solicitor, I have  
very grave doubts as to whether I  
would accept, if it could. Life  
in Nebraska would undoubtedly be  
rough and inconvenient, but en-  
terprise would more certainly be  
rewarded there than at home.  
Your repugnance to leaving Dayton  
would be one great obstacle to ~~leaving~~  
going west, tho' I believe we would  
be better satisfied in the end. By  
hard scratching we can manage to  
make a living in Dayton; while the  
same labor in Nebraska in two

years would put us in affluent  
circumstances.

I am anxious to hear from Dayton  
to learn what you <sup>all</sup> think about my  
scheme of filing an application for  
the P.O. in Dayton. <sup>(for myself)</sup> I shall not do so  
without consultation with Mr. Schenck  
and did not intend to until I found  
he was determined to take sides def-  
initely with Combs. In that event,  
I should file an application and  
rely upon Chase's influence to get the  
appointment either for Mr. F. or my-  
self. I would very much prefer  
that he should have it, but if  
that can not be accomplished,  
then I would like to have it my-  
self. If I am not an applicant  
Mr. Chase will support Green or Downing  
and might possibly give the place to  
one of them; but if they could be  
excluded from the contest then he  
would support Mr. F. or against Combs.