

I going to Washington. I have not been able to learn anything about the bill making the place & do not know whether there ever will be such a one as I seek, & if I cannot get that I must try for some other place there, tho' I do not consider the prospect for getting it very good. My friends, I am afraid are not the ones to trouble themselves much to get me a soft place. I can not ask one with a very good face, as I have enjoyed a very soft one nearly all the time I have been in the service. Still, if some of them conceived it to be their interest to do something for me, it could easily be accomplished. - Never mind, it may all come right in the end so let us be patient. -

We are having pleasant weather and not much to do, except to keep a sharp look-out for quail &c.

Tell Rob. Sam. much oblig'd for his letter. If Julia wants to write to me, let her see Mr. Pencil, or if she cannot manage a pen very dextrally, write of her interest if it must be scribbled to Miss Jones to send a paper to Mr. Sidney Hope to the Knickerbocker. Min. 7/27/64
Yours of the 31st came to hand this morning. I am sorry to hear of the illness of Frank & Mary - the latter of course was expected to be sick while getting her teeth & undergoing vaccination, but the former ought not to have the chills at this season of the year. What is the cause of his sickness I don't know, but if I were you I should see that he is nutritious and stimulating a diet as can conveniently be procured. Of course he need not know the difference. Please him & all the other children, if possible, of the habit of eating between meals & then you can manage Frank's diet. He is so weak and puny that I think a generous diet might possibly prove very beneficial to him. Of course you

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would not make any material
change until he is rid of his child.
Of course you won't forget that my Affairs
are not to be talked about.
You must not be too haughty -
I could not leave the army now were
I never so willing to get out of it,
because I should have no way of
making a living. You would soon
write me away again if I put
myself at home without any em-
ployment. I don't think I shall un-
dertake the law again - it's a stam-
ping business at best, and I must
make more than a living some
how. If I could get the appoint-
ment I spoke to you about, I
should be able to live quite com-
fortably & perhaps buy up something.
As a considerable portion of my
time would be unoccupied, I might
perhaps make something outside of the
office. If this fails, I have another

What do you think of the "Prize" I enclose?

project in my mind, which in-
cludes some of the ideas of the other.
The latter, however, would have to be
suspended until I could leave the
army creditably. This I could not
do with the next active and im-
portant campaign of the war just
opening, and while I have the
command of a Brigade General.
I do not suppose that I shall be
allowed to remain in command
of the Brigade, however, when oper-
ations are resumed. But I shall
be in command of my regiment
in spite of all they can do, &
that will be a handsome com-
mand of itself, though I now
have six ^{regts} (6) - three of them being
very small. If I should get the staff
appointment of which I have
spoken to you, it would ne-
cessitate my leaving this army