

Station, to attend a grand flag presentation and review. We were on up and found them in the midst of a dinner, with plenty to eat and drink. I was ushered in and provided with a seat at the head of the table, but before I reached it I was called and called on for a speech. Having just come in, & being unknown to nearly every one at the dinner, you may well imagine that I was decidedly embarrassed. However, I made a few remarks before I sat down, & imbibing a cigar, quietly listened to the Pennsylvania braves celebrate their own prowess. They said some very complimentary things of us, they also and Col. Tucker after talking us to the skies expressed his ardent desire to be standing shoulder to shoulder with me when I was shot! Wasn't that delightful. We came back to dinner about 7 P.M. My A.C. being in a glorious state of "partial intoxication" as we say down here when one gets badly fuddled.

Well, this ante-breakfast epistle is about done and so call that delightful mathematical exercise off. Do me all right to be the guide
ears I don't quite understand it.
I am afraid I shall spoil you by writing to you by letter, as you must soon begin to think yourself a big somebody if you don't get some of my little letters to tell you
By the way
I shall be
to try the
experiment of writing you a letter before breakfast which although it is now eight, I do not expect to set down to much before nine.
I received yours and Lella's letters on Sunday. Tell her I am very much pleased at the progress she has made in writing and hope her next letter will show an equal progress but not be quite so long in coming. I had mailed another to her on Saturday.
Tell John Howard he is a mean man and if he doesn't write me soon I mean to drown him & never call him uncle again! He has never written me a word since I was home, while he might just as well as not, if he were writing

me a half dozen short ones full of the town gossip which seldom reaches you.

Have you sold the coupons on the 7.30^s If not you had better do so while gold is up - also the coupons on the 5²⁰ smos if any are due. There is no use in keeping them after they become payable: so if you have not sold them as I advised you to some weeks since, do so at once & let me know how much you get. They are worth nearly two thirds more than their face - which makes a very fair interest.

Who did the aquaria in belong to; if to mother you should buy her another.

The good servant was not the cook, so the lark is as good as ever. By the way, we have a machine for making lark

which would be found very useful in any family, namely a small sausage-cutter (patent). It cuts the meat very small and evenly and as it works with a crank it saves a good deal of labor, besides improving the lark. It could also be used for making mince-meat, a job I used to be plagued over when a very small boy. Hark by the way has got to be quite a favorite with me, as my teeth are getting so poor that it is troublesome to masticate even the tenderest bits of beef, the tough I altogether or claw!

Yesterday I went to call on some Pennsylvania ladies at the camp of the West Regiment towards the 12th, towards Alexandria. We did not find them at home nor the officers we expected to see. They had all gone up to Winstow