

I express my willingness to have you return as a Major. The return being all important to you.

advice - you & every person is always welcome to a visit.

I wish you could see our sweet Baby as she is sleeping before me. She is the life of the house wherever she goes. - Much love to a fresh cow and I shall soon begin to feed my army, but will not mean to leave you shortly and never see me. Should like to see you, please let me know how we will be situated so that I can tell what to do with the children. They will take care of themselves here, but I shall think Mother is a little, and perhaps one might go with me. I hope you will be prepared for any emergency.

never received

full of anxiety for you, and Howard. Another Sunday I was sure would not pass without tidings, but here it is and yet there is nothing. Rather can I expect anything for some time; very none of us thought of such fighting, wonderful in its fierceness and long duration! I trust the end, the glorious end is near, and that you and Howard will rejoice with us at that blessed moment when, our rejoicings will be swallowed up in bitter grief. You are both engaged in the most eventful of all the campaigns, if you survive it, you will always feel proud of it, and so will I; but now the glory

sinks into insignificance while you are
so surrounded with danger.

I started to Mr. Brady's to see whether they
had had a late letter from Mart, and met
Robert coming to see if I had any news.

He had nothing for me, but I concluded
to go on down. Both of your sisters are
very anxious about you, and they are all
kind and attentive to me; I did feel
rather neglected at one time, but suppose
they could not very well help it.

Robert and Eliza concluded not to go
away last week on account of the battle.

Robert goes to Columbus tomorrow.

There are a great many kind inquiries
made both for you and me, by
different persons. Father said Doctor Thomas
asked him whether you had been heard
from.

Joe Crane has just gone back, Lib
said Sally was grieving over their separation,
but said that when she thought of me,

she felt that she ought not to say one
word. — Joe's arm is crooked and never
entirely free from pain; although he has
the use of it.

I've asked Mary to go out home
with him on Friday; she thought she
ought not to go because she had "done
nothing" this week. He said neither
had he and didn't expect to till this
contest was decided. — It is as all over
town, and no wonder, for the issue is
of momentous interest to all; to those
who have dear ones in it; Oh how terribly
interesting! — One account spoke of our
troops having their ^{evening} meal cooked and eaten
and then sleeping sweetly; it was I think
the evening before Hancock made his
brilliant assault on the rear of the
enemy; were you there eating sweetly dinner?
Or were you too weary and worn? Worse than
that I will not believe, though the fear
sometimes falls darkly and drearily upon

me; -- But this letter will not cheer you
much, neither do I know of any thing very
interesting to send you. The papers are
full of the war news, so I have sent none
lately. -- Will Howard was ^{day before} yesterday ad-
mitted to the bar.

I brought home with me, that miniature of
you taken when you were about 21; and
mean to tell Mrs. Brady that she must
never give it to any one but me, for if
I mistake not, Frank will resemble it closely.

The General Assembly must have this week
very much to the disgust of many of Mr. Speer's
church members. Several who have large houses
will entertain none of the preachers; the husbands
won't have them. -- I had a letter from Mary Van
Dyke this week; she had heard from some
officer that you were a Brigadier General, and
sent her congratulations to you; said she had
told you to reach that notch before your return
and was glad you had taken her advice! I suppose
she would say "that is just like Mrs. Brown" if

Monday Morning 7 O'clock -
Augusta left her letter unsealed - I called
at her room found her asleep and sleeping
the children - all well - And all of us anxious
to learn your fate - You have seem to have
been in many terrible conflicts - God grant
to you may return us safely - Wife is quite
unwell but up and busy as usual.

S. D.