

Collected with Maj Preston, and if
he thinks it advisable will send Lord
Jackson's permit for the person bringing
my horse to pass through some lines. The
route would be right down the valley from Steam-
ton, on the McAdams road, in case you
should send the horse I would like to learn
to cover my saddle with the brown linen
which is in one of the trunks at Edwards.
Alfred would be in no danger in coming here
as he could retire when the fight commenced
unless he were disposed to take a hand. If
he should come I would like him to bring the
overcoat at least which I wore you yesterday.

Very heartily yours
Wm. D. S.

Evening - I have just returned from the
Quarters. Maj P. promises to do all he can for me
but says there are a great many applications
for the medical department. I learned however
that there had been no appointments of Surgeons
to our Regiment of Artillery. Dr. Bennett is
acting under Sutro's appointment, and he is now
with Sutro's Battery, 14 miles from here -
Now is the time to write. See doctor and Eitzen
if possible.
W. D. S.

Dear Father,
Washington Ferry
May 20th 1861. Monday

This is plying you with letters
pretty fast, but I can not see you face
to face and must use the medium of
pen and ink. I have just been down
town and learned that surgeons
being detailed for special service
every day. When I came back, Mr.
Laughlin and Capt. Roubillon to the
advised me to report myself at the
quarters as ready for special duty.
I met Dick Dandeen on the road
and he wanted me to act as his as-
sistant in the absence of Dr. South-
all. These appointments for spe-
cial duty are merely temporary,
but they are often the stepping

stones to permanent and desirable
posts. I would accept one of them
at once if I only had a horse, in
the hope that it might lead to a
commission as Regimental Asst
Surgeon. Would it be possible for you
to send my horse down immediately, by
Allah, or some one? We have been
attached to the 1st Regiment Artillery,
and Col Gordon has been appointed
Commander; but the Regiment is
not filled up, and we have not been
organized. Besides, I learn today
from Mr Stanghien, that the officers of
the Regiment will probably not sub-
mit to the appointment of a stipendiary
like Gordon, such men as Capt Pen-
oblaton not relishing the idea of serving
under him. Moreover, Mr informant
that Capt Jackson will be superceeded as
commander of this post by a General,

and we may get Jackson as Lieut
of our Regiment (instead of Gordon).
(This is strictly private and confidential)
So you see our Regiment is as yet un-
formed, and with proper effort I think
I might get the post of Asst Surgeon, if
not to this Regiment perhaps to some
other. Capt P and other officers of
our company seem anxious to help
me, and shall go to head quarters
this afternoon in accordance with
their advice; but commanding officers
here can do nothing more than recom-
mend. If you could go to Richmond I
think it would avail. The office of
Asst Surgeon is worth about \$12.00
a year and is worth having. If I were
sure of getting my horse soon I would ac-
cept a temporary appointment in the hope
that it would help me to something better.
I will keep this letter open till I have