February 27, 1889

My dear Sladen:-

You are right, Butterfield's dinner was a nice affair, and the report made by a Democratic Editor present, from sheer memory, was, to say the least, extrodinary and very satisfactory to me.

I had a warm welcome in San Fransisco: but it did not come as here from the leaders in social life.

I have already stirred up much influence as I well can in Captain Gray's behalf. When I go to Washington I shall see the Delegate and others. Having much to ask of General Harrison it is necessary to be judicious in that quarter. I am hoping more for the Captain from the Secretary of the Interior, as soon as I know who he is to be.

I have been so loaded down with expenses since I left San-Fransisco that I have not been able to help Grace in her desired investments. Her energy seems after the old sort and begins to wake up anew.

It is not wise to throw away a monthly salary of \$150.00 when one has so large a family. This you know.

I rejoice greatly at your own prospects, your own fruitful work in the past begins to tell in the confidence that comes to you unasked.

Bessie and Mrs. H. were happy over the canary bird picture.

Harry has been in business (hardware) for one week; but his mother has pursuaded him to forgo his business ambition for a time that he may have further mental instruction and be a companion to Bessie during this year.

I visited John, at Troy, the other day. He is hard at work and with the exception of logic has made a good record thus far. For want of logic he may emulate Fred and stop back a year - nous verrons.

Now that Washington Territory has become a State, will it change the requirements for the Register of the Land Office at Vancouver? If it does not several good letters to Mr. Allen from your vicinage would do no harm.

Accept love from all.

Affectionately yours.

(sgd) Oliver Otis Howard

Major General U.S.Army.

Captain J. A. Sladen,

Manager Aetna Life Insurance Co., of Hartford, Conn.,

Portland, Oregon.