Four civilians have been put over his head.
I learn that Macalester has been transferred to the Ordnance
the transfer however arrived after the vessel sailed & he must
go to Vera Cruz at any rate. I wrote by him and sent a pair
of spurs to you. But what has become of the "Mustangs".
I was in great hopes that that corps would continue to dis
tinguish itself on horseback. As to your sword I shall send
out to Bob LeRoy or Edw. Delafield for it as Wolcott has come
back. Your aunts are pretty well. William Channing
has returned from [illegible] [illegible] is studying here, but afflic
ted with dyspepsia. Francis still at Newport. Mrs Murray
has not yet got back from Europe. I saw the remaining rabbit at a little
party at Mrs McBracken's & she blushed guilty when I told her
that her name was circulated round the camp fire. Schmidt's
as usual, peripatetic & saltatory. I presume the fair Laura
is a shade paler at her hero's danger. (Monroe is your fast
friend - he will do much as well as Wetmore) I sent Mrs
Scott a copy of your letter to day. She will be gratified
the expressions of admiration of the General. He is a he
No General & no army since Nimrod invented fighting
have ever done more. An English gentleman of distinction
mentioned the other day at the Navy department that
shortly before he left England he heard the duke of Welling-
ton express in company his admiration of General Scott,
in exalted terms - He said he was Wonderful. His speech
to the rifles is perfectly Napoleonic. It will tell through the
country. My Dear Alfred, I cannot tell you how anxiously
we watch every thing that concerns the army & you. God
bless you always & grant that you come safe out of
this most murderous of all wars. Do not unnecessarily
throw yourself in the way of danger. You have already
won distinction enough. I hope the worst is over but I
fear. If Scott had 50,000 men he could settle it in a
week.