Smithsonian Institution
Washington June 30th 61

Dear Mother

I wrote a hurried note to Laura on Thursday
exp. with which exception I have not written you one for
the past week. My only excuse is that Austin promised
to call & see you on his return. Nothing of special interest
has occurred here. You have seen it all in the papers
with a great deal more, especially in the Tribune. Opin-
ions are divided as to whether Grady was board or sin-
cere in the different stories of compromise & of Botts' letter
There was no foundation for any of them. I dont hope
from that an era of compromise is entertained by the
administration or the army. Gen Scott's movements are
slow & he does & he must be hurried, but he is gradu-
ally accumulating & organizing his forces & we doubt
not that when he moves he will do so effectually.
Banks operations in Baltimore have been the source
of great satisfaction to all of us. The ~~real~~ complaint
against the government of which Grady has been
too wide founded & they dont seem to be equal to
the occasion yet. I saw Mc Dowell last evening.
He spoke warmly about Dr Kennedy & seemed to be
much grieved that he had not written him before
his departure, but said he was worked to death.
Saturday passed his examination & expects his com-