

West Point Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 29

Dear Father

I arrived here on the 28<sup>th</sup> ultimo, the day specified in my furlough, and have already commenced study. My course of this year will be by far more difficult, and will therefore require much stricter application, than those of the preceding years. It embraces Mechanics, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Pencil Drawing & Topography or Pen Drawing.

I am now glad that I came back. I feel that I shall be pleased with the studies to be pursued this year and the next. Good fortune has again favoured me. Last night an officer in my class was reduced to the ranks and at parade by an order of Col Thayer I was appointed in his place. The office that I have obtained is an