personal merit — they all allow that Bleaker is a gallant man, courageous to a fault, but without any military experience whatever —

The Banks intend having a meeting on Thursday and will take the third instalment of the Fifty million Loan and perhaps make some further arrangements. Every thing smiles here — just as I write the rumor comes in of a repulse at New Orleans and the sinking of the Preble — Our expedition is off after sailing for three days — a fleet left on Saturday, Sunday, Yesterday and the balance leaves to day — Great Republic and all off — the New Armada —

What do you propose to do in Washington

Faithfully yours

John Austin Stevens Jr

Write me as soon as you
hear anything of Lulley —