He is a fool or knave or both — I have the most positive assurance that our Europeans affairs were presented to the Cabinet as having the best look generally — Mr Seward may excuse himself on the plea of real danger — he may be right — I do not believe it — or he may have forgotten that he was the secretary in his usual levity — it is possible — I fear it is a part of his plan to involve us in foreign difficulty sooner or later — perhaps the breaking rebellion may through its leaders seek either to delude him with the idea that the Country would reunite under such a pressure to save themselves through the war or by it — I hope he will not escape from the deserved punishment of his misdeeds this time and he will not if I can stir up the leaders to it —

Very faithfully Yours

John Austin Stevens Jr