Newport 26th October 1861

George Gibbs Esqr
Washington

My dear George: I wrote you last 22d inst and
Am since in your debt by your letter of 22d with enclosed
memorial with which I have as yet had no chance to
do anything in the quarter you name Howland &
Aspinwall. The facts are somewhat differently stated
by the last arrival. The vessel which was suspected in China
was followed to the Japan coast and found to be the
Neva, papers all right and quite unconscious of any
privateer intentions. One of our friends a China Merchant
said he would gladly join in a memorial to retain in the
China seas one of our squadron but he hesitated about
asking the Govt to do anything. That being the surest
method to insure neglect — and I doubt whether the
opinion of Howland & Aspinwall would not rather
injure than aid Dall after the expose before the
Cabinet of their conduct in the proposed sale of
a steamer some months since — If you press the
matter I will go forward in it and see what can
be done — Your note of 23d was also received in