New York 31 October 1861

George Gibbs Esqr
Washington D.C.

Dear George —

You know we are quite intimate with the Betts here. George Betts, a son of the old Judge and a man of fine character and principles and a lawyer of excellent standing, is the Lt Colonel of the Hawkins Zouaves stationed at Fort Hatteras and a good officer at that — He writes that the report of our affair there in which the Skamer took part was "cut from the whole cloth" and that not a single rebel was killed and only one wounded by that Cannonade on the narrow neck of land of which the streets were filled with literal and picturesque accounts — What lying "Memoirs pour servir" we are piling up for a future historian. History will soon be an account of things which have not happened — He writes also the best news I have yet read — that hundreds and thousands of North Carolinians are ready to join the standard of the Republic the moment we can arm them and that in his opinion