I am not one of those who consider the landing of 15000 men, though a great task, one which should tax the energies of a people of 20.000.000 — I have known the time when our Commercial Marine landed 10.000 emigrants in one day at this port after having crossed the Atlantic with them, and do not remember a single case of starvation — and the ships were supposed to carry some cargo —

I hear that the Marshal yesterday found some of Blenkers stores going the wrong way here yesterday and seized them — and hope he may now be brought to justice, I am sorry to hear that McClellan is the warm advocate — the feeling here is that Blenker is not what he should be —

But I am sick of complaining — only it seems hard to have 4 c 700.000 men eating their heart out of the country and not turned to any account — and fear they may drive us to bankruptcy and ruin before the slow movement of the incompetents has fairly started the machine —

Do write and give me some cheering news —

Father is now in Washington

Affectionately Yours John Austin Stevens Jr