[illegible] to the wiser of the people,
instead of drowning it with cold water and
strangling it with red tape, he would have
led us to a successful and permanent
occupation of Arizona, Kentucky & Tennessee
six weeks ago — but the golden opportunity
lost and Tallerico Buell defended, he
should surely have insisted on the carrying
out of his own plan and waited his own
time — why with 45 M men march on
unknown positions, why not settle the hash of
Gen Johnston first — why not supersede
Patterson before and await the completion of
the line by the junction of the three columns
I can not see; and nothing but the plain
opinion of a Napoleon would or could convince
me that an awful military blunder was not
made —

As for the rest, it is too mortifying — and
for me I am sure it can not be removed but
by revoking the whole of the Commission
[illegible] to Lincoln and taking every officer