New York 5 September 1861

George Gibbs Esqr.
Washington -

Dear George -

I have seen your letter to father and presuming that he is too busy for reply, instead saying a few words myself - I am quite of your opinion as to the untimely and injudicious character of Fremont's proclamation and with yourself anticipated an unwelcome effect upon Kentucky - but either that State was in a condition where violent remedies are best, or else the proviso within the lines which tempered the blow has been differently estimated in the West - In either event the Legislature seems to stand fast by the Union -

The Hatteras affair was in every way a fortunate enough, one in which the loss escaped was as striking as the success attained - but I am afraid it will prove a very expensive victory to us - If not followed up immediately and before the Coast can be defended we shall suffer from the premature movement - We were right in the view we held